THE

Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LXV.] HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 4TH MAY, 1907. No. 18.

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BIRTH.

On March 12th, at St. Budeaux, Devonport the wife of Lieutenant A. E. HOUSE, R N., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On March 20th, at Sissinghurst, England, JAMES HENRY OSBORNE of Shanghai, to HARRIET ELIZA DUNGEY.

On April 23rd, at Shanghai, ERNEST FRANCIS, eldest surviving son of the late C. J. Bateman, Esq., of Hongkong, to GEORGINA ETHEL BUCHANAN.

DEATHS.

On March 24th, at Rothesay, St. Leonards-on-Sea, JESSIE MARCIA JOHNSTON, late Missionary of the English Presbyterian Church, Amoy, aged 45 years.

On April 18th, at Hankow from Pneumonia, S. D. DUCK, of the Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation.

On board R.M.S. *Empress of Japan*, approaching Yokohama, HARRY WICKING, late of Hongkong. Deeply regretted.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The French Mail of 29th March arrived, per the s.s. *Tourane*, on Tuesday, the 30th ultimo; and the English Mail of 5th April arrivaled, per the s.s. *Devanha*, on Tuesday the 2nd instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

An immense crowd of natives was watching the annual procession of fat men on May 1st at Shiza, and the stone bridge there was packed. The irresistible movement of the crowd sent many over into the creek, and it is estimated that at least forty were drowned.

Owing to the depression in the China yarn market 25 out of the 37 spinning mills in Bombay decided to work only four days a week, starting April and continuing until the middle of June.

James Gordon, a stoker on H.M.S. *Bedford*, got shore leave on the night of April 25th, but failed to go aboard on the following day. He was found drowned off the Army Service Corps Wharf on Monday.

Ting Cheng-to, Viceroy of Yünnan and Kueichou, has reported to the Throne that at present 47,000 Chinese labourers are working day and night on the railroad from Mengtze to Yünnanfu. Most probably the line will be completed in the very near future.

As Sergeant Sim was proceeding to Samshuipo on the ferry during the squall on Tuesday one of the conservancy boats capsized. He ordered the ferry coxswain to steam for the distressed vessel. On reaching it he knocked a hole in the bottom, and rescued three of the crew.

On April 30, while an old Chinese woman was working in the fields adjoining her residence, which is on the hillside above the Petroleum works at East Point, she was attacked from behind by two men. They relieved her of $150, the savings of years which she always carried in her pocket, and escaped.

"If I had any intention of stealing, I would have chosen a larger one", a coolie told Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe at the Police Court on May 1st when charged with the larceny of a chicken. As the offence was proved beyond doubt, however, his Worship sentenced him to one months' imprisonment and four hours' stocks.

The Wai-wu-pu is in receipt of an urgent telegram from the Yun-kwei Viceroy to the effect that under pretext of reducing the disorder arising from the disagreements between Chinese and Annamese employés of the Yunnan Railway, French troops are being drafted to Mengtze. The Viceroy appeals to the Peking authorities to interfere in the matter.

Now that motor-driven craft are becoming so common in Hongkong harbour, it is time for our legislators to consider amendments or additions to the law. It seems absurd that coxswains who are to run motorboats should be examined as if they were to run steam launches, for the best launch-coxswain would be liable to get into trouble with a motor. The new enterprise will have to be recognised some time, so why not at once?

The case of the four Chinese cattle thieves was concluded before Mr. F. A. Haseland at the Police Court on May 1st. These men, it will be remembered, were charged with being in possession of cattle stolen outside the Colony, well knowing the same to have been stolen. They are said to have rounded the cattle up near Sanchun in Chinese territory, and were arrested while in charge of them at Yaumati on the 5th ultimo. His Worship sentenced them to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

The French Municipal authorities have lately brought up 50 Annamite policemen to reinforce the Garde Municipale at Shanghai. The experiment will be watched with great interest. The men paraded on April 12th armed with rifles and bayonets at the French Consulate as a guard of honour for H. E. Tsen, Viceroy of Szechwan, and created a very favourable impression, indeed, by their smart appearance.

The following notification was issued from H.B.M. Post Office Shanghai:—Information has been received from Vladivostok to the effect that a mail bag from this office for London, despatched on March 30 via Vladivostok and Siberia, has been opened and robbed on board the s.s. *Baltica*. As far as I know at present a portion of the registered mail was stolen and the remainder tampered with. I am notifying the senders of the registered covers, where known, so that steps may be taken to prevent negotiation of any drafts, etc., that may have been stolen. W. J. Scilly, Postmaster.

On the occasion of "General" Booth's arrival at Shimbashi on April 17th a banner was carried by one of those who welcomed the "General," bearing the inscription "Japan is dedicated to Jesus Christ." This seems to have caused a misunderstanding among a section of Tokyo citizens. On the 19th a manifesto against the Salvation Army was found posted on telephone and electric light poles, fences, etc., in Ushigome, Kanda and Waseda. It was stated in the manifesto that the offering of Japan to any other outside the Empire is the work of a rebel against the Empire and that, therefore, the Salvation Army should be annihilated by burning its headquarters and institutions. The manifesto added that sympathisers were requested to assemble in Hibiya Park at 7 p.m. on the 21st. The police authorities immediately removed the manifesto and are taking precautions.

The news was received with deep regret of the death of Mr. W. W. Brewer, one of the old "China hands," who was well known and esteemed. He came out to the East about 1875, when he held a position in Kelly and Walsh's at Shanghai. Some time later he was entrusted with the inauguration of that firm's branch in Hongkong, and not long afterwards he set up in business for himself and soon made the establishment a paying concern. Deceased has been married twice and is survived by his widow, two sons who are in the business here, a little boy who was accompanying him and a married daughter. His death is particularly sad as he only came out from home in October last to form a company to take over the business and on settling affairs was proceeding home to enjoy a well earned retirement. He was about 55 years of age.

The Waiwupu has forwarded to En Ming, Governor of Anhui province, complaint made by the American Minister in Peking on behalf of the Standard Oil Company. In the dispatch it is stated that this company had purchased a year and a half ago a plot of land under Yehchishan Hill, outside of Wuhu, to be used as an oil reservoir but that in spite of the repeated requests of the company made through the American Consul to the Chinese authorities of Wuhu to stamp the little deed for the said plot of land the requests have not been complied with for some reason or other. Furthermore it is claimed that there is a large oil reservoir belonging to the German firm of Arnhold, Karberg & Co., quite near the lot purchased by the Standard Oil Company, and that, while title deeds for the German property had been stamped by the officials, these last have persistently declined to do the same for the American concern. An explanation is therefore asked for by the Waiwupu from the Governor of Anhui as to the action on the Wuhu authorities.

ANTI-RAILWAY ARGUMENTS.

(*Daily Press*, April 29th.)

To the western mind it seems inexplicable that there should be any objection to the opening up of a country by means of railroads, but we have recently discoverd that there are educated and intelligent Chinese who are not so sanguine about the benefits and improvements to follow the introduction of the locomotive. The steam engine may be the precursor in Europe and America of thriving townships resulting from a developed trade, but it cannot be expected, they argue, that such experience will be repeated in China. Though we may not be able to share those prognostications with the gentlemen who express them, we must admit that their views are entitled to the respect due to all honest expressions of opinion. Their attitude seems to be based on a certain appreciation—more or less perfect—of the economic conditions which prevail in the Empire. The vast majority of the people live on the land and they tell us that the operation of the patriarchal system has resulted in the partition of ancient heritages to such a degree that the small plot left is inadequate to the proper support of the family working upon it. The people are indeed so poor that they are incapable of any further effort. In other words, the dwellers in the interior who are not able to raise sufficient from the land to meet their own needs cannot be in a position to produce crops of any kind for export. That being so, they ask us: what advantages are likely to accrue from the establishment of a railway through the heart of the country? Politically, its advantages are apparent. It will strengthen the government, and will give a greater cohesion among the members of this rather large and unwieldy organism. Its educative influence, also, we have previously enlarged upon. But commercially, what are the prospects? "The mass of the population, taxing the soil to its utmost to provide sustenance for the millions, cannot avail themselves of the opportunities which the railway presents in less impoverished countries." To that we reply, that we cannot admit that the mass of the population has ever done anything of the sort. The great bulk of the land has not been exploited, as it will be when the railways come. Much of China has been neglected as it would never have been neglected if it had been more accessible. Most of the objections to the railway (apart from the intelligent attempt at argument quoted), were born of rank prejudice, and usually abandoned when the benefits were seen and realized. The Chinese are averse to change. The ignorant unenlightened masses are the most conservative of all, and so we are told that "until some vivifying influence has infused new vigour in them and induced them to adopt different methods their condition will not be bettered by such costly experiments as the construction of railways." But it is the railways that are to supply that vivifying influence. "In fact, it will be worsened, because instead of a poverty-stricken but contented population there will be a people miserably poor and unhappy in their growing discontent." Such is the argument employed not to actively rebut railway proposals but to passively discourage their realisation. While interesting as representing a certain point of view it cannot be taken seriously. The new link with the great world beyond will present opportunities which the villagers will be shrewd enough to appreciate, and it does not need the prophetic eye to anticipate the time when different methods will be employed by the uninstructed agriculturists of China. Example will be their great preceptor, the example of those who have lived and learned abroad, and having been taught in this way to help themselves they will ere long enjoy the satisfaction which comes from making two blades grow where only one grew before. Moreover portions of land not yet under cultivation can be made to pay tribute, while it is only necessary to mention mineral resources to indicate the great wealth which can be brought from the bowels of the earth to redeem the nation from the reproach of poverty. Undoubtedly the railway is an educative and a factor of progress. It may disturb the calm which the Celestial enjoys, but it will inspire the discontent which leads to material advancement, and with agriculture fostered, industry developed and commerce advanced there will ensue greater happiness founded on greater knowledge and a material prosperity such as will elevate future generations above the traditional but somewhat empty glories of an ancient civilisation. Railways may not bring a nobler civilisation to China, but they will bring greater comfort, and make the bounds of knowledge and freedom wider yet.

CHINESE MILITARY EXPERIMENT.

(*Daily Press*, 30th April.)

The French mail steamer *Ville de la Ciotat* which arrived in port yesterday brings among its passengers for France fifteen young Chinamen, who may be said to constitute the nucleus of the real Yellow Peril. In charge of Colonel TING, they go to join the French Army, by special arrangement, as regular conscripts. Their mission is an experiment by the Chinese War Office, and is understood to be the result of a suggestion from the Travelling Commissioners who returned last year. These fifteen young men have undergone two years' training at the Paotingfu Military College, but on arrival in France they will begin in all respects as the newest of new recruits. Beyond the French regulation allowances, they will receive only a franc a day, and so be saved from the extravagances and idleness of others who have gone abroad as military students from the Provinces. The young men passing through Hongkong to-day do not represent any Provinces; they have been specially selected on grounds of fitness to lay the foundations of the Imperial Army that is to be. After going through the routine discipline of the French conscript, they will be examined for entrance to different French military colleges, to learn the duties of officers. To make sure that its fifteen francs a day are not being wasted, the Luchunpu requires from the Chinese Legation regular reports of the progress of the party. The Chinese Government, who have only recently conceived the idea of the Imperial Army as against Provincial Armies, are not likely to repeat the mistake of the carefully rehearsed reviews and sham fights which exposed to the experts of the world how hollow were these pretensions at army reform. It is stated that the despatch of this party under the sensible conditions indicated is on a par with other movements started by the Ministry of War. The uniform question may soon be practically settled without prejudice, and the troops armed with the latest or most effective weapons. Camp and field work, more practical (and Japanese) than the previous showy demonstrations, is in train; and altogether Peking seems to have made up its mind that as the foreign Powers are not easily "bluffed", it must go in for the real thing. When the gallant fifteen return from France, and obtain appointments, and when they have had a year or two of command without too much Mandarinesque meddling, it may then be time for us to "look-see" in the case of China and her imperial army. The Yellow Peril, instead of a foolish nightmare as at present, may then be a possibility to some extent. But while there is sure to be much foreign comment on this newest sign of China's awakening, we have no doubt that those who will make the most of it, and overestimate its importance as a factor of change, will be the members of Mandarindom themselves.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

(*Daily Press* 1st May).

The presence in Shanghai this last few days of "the largest body of Protestant Missionaries ever gathered together in the Far East" is an event we ought not to overlook, yet the task of commenting upon it is one we cannot approach without some diffidence. Missionary questions have been so often discussed intemperately, that the most honest and impartial commentator cannot hope to mention them without incurring the suspicion of one party or another. It is, indeed, broadly speaking a subject upon which no one gets credit offhand for honesty of intention. No person or journal professing interest in China can ignore the missionary movement, and in once more referring to various points appropriate at the present juncture we claim the indulgence due to all sincere convictions, however unpopular they may be in some quarters. At the opening meeting we notice there were fully fifteen hundred persons present, representing 83 different societies or Agencies, and coming from more than five hundred Chinese cities. At the outset we can cheerfully admit that a proportion of these people are sincere and well-meaning, and that a certain amount of good has been done; but there are numerous features of the business for which we are unable to feel any sympathy at all. First and foremost we would like to see this Conference honestly discuss the question of women workers, the drawbacks to whose presence we have previously pointed out. It is an honest conviction of ours that all women missionaries should be recalled, but we do not expect that the male "martyrs" will condescend to even admit the question. Many of them politically would doubtless be found objecting to the Suffragette movement were they at home, but their conscience does not seem to have persuaded any of them that it is not right to let women and children suffer the ills incidental to life in the interior. We need not recapitulate our reasons at this time, but until the male missionaries do recognise the issue, our respect for them cannot grow. Neither need we enter upon the broad question of their justification or otherwise in bringing dogmas to an empire so devoted to ethics as China is. The missionaries have firmly established their footing, and it will need all the space at our disposal to mention such points as have occurred through reading the reports of their doings at the Northern port. The Shanghai papers are full of missionary contributions, and it is passages in these that have attracted our attention. Their calm disregard of the literal meanings

of many phrases employed is amazing. One visitor who wrote casually of the "complacent bigotry" of the Chinese is perhaps the most monumental instance of this. One of them humorously suggests that Shanghai deserves to be called at present, instead of the "Sink of Iniquity," the "Fount of Religion." We suggest as an amendment the "Temporary Reservoir of Condensed and Complacent Bigotry," for the fifteen hundred are bigotted if that word retains its meaning, and their complacence is ostentatious. The conference sat under an embroidered motto containing the words *Unum in Christo*, and one of the contributors referred to says :

"It has long been the habit of certain writers to represent the Protestant missionaries as divided into varying sects. They are described as settling down, three or four varieties of them, in the one city where each spends his time in telling the uninstructed heathen not to believe what the others teach. To see them all met now in unity, peace and concord, anxious for nothing but to advance the common cause, should nail that lie to the counter at last."

In the very next column, cheek by jowl, the "lie" is un-nailed again by a communication with reference to efforts to restore Christian Unity, to avoid "needless collisions or unwise duplication of labour," which quotes the Lambeth Conference's citation of "bitter dissensions." If it were a lie, then that Anglican Conference fathered it; and unless the Shanghai newspapers are wickedly misreporting the doings of these representatives of 83 sects, it is the embroidered motto which is false. We read that "there was a good deal of feeling" on the exclusion of certain Delegates; and when the

Rev. G. H. Bondfield mentioned that it was desired to include illustrations in the volume of proceedings, and it was hoped, if possible, to have a photograph of the Conference; that there was no other structure in Shanghai that would accommodate all the visitors and delegates but the Grand Stand; and that the Stewards of the Race Club had kindly placed this at their disposal,

Mr. WATSON from Changsha said that he for one would not go near the Race Course, and others moved that there be no such contact with such an evil place as that devoted to horse-racing. Countless other inconsistencies that look like insincerities could be raked up. The phrase "faithful unto death" is a favourite, yet everybody knows that these men have the commonsense to scuttle when warned of danger. There was too much talk of "notables" and "prominents," considering that it is a body of men whose profession it is to glory in lowly service; the REV. LORD WILLIAM CECIL might consider the propriety of dropping at least one of his titles, for instance, if he has come to pour precious ointment over the feet of the humble coolie. However, if we were to note all such minor shortcomings, the lack of meekness, the failures to turn the other cheek, and so on, there would be no end to the indictment. One paper writing a sort of apologia! for the Conference referred to the service the missionaries have rendered in adding to our knowledge of China. This is an argument becoming popular of late, and it is perhaps time to point out that it is a weak if plausible one. Other men could have done it just as well, if they had had the leisure that some missionaries seem to have had; and it is to be noted that the missionaries whose contributions to sinology have been worth anything have been few enough to count on the fingers. The vast majority who attend this Conference have probably not yet learned enough to exercise the necessary tact in dealing with the Chinese. As to the value of the Conference, a writer points out that missionary work is being neglected, and much money spent to little purpose. If mission funds are used, "it means the withdrawal of that amount from what might be more profitably used in direct work." Many of the men will stay in Shanghai "till after the hot season," perspiration being a branch of martyrdom not heroic enough for them. One of them wonders what ROBERT MORRISON thinks of it all. "Whether he knows of, and is glad at, the Conference is a question for theologians" If that be so, there is not so much to mock at in the Chinese practice of trying to please their ancestors by votive offerings. The Chinese papers have been commenting on the exclusion of native delegates from the Conference, and we cannot see that there is any valid excuse for thus debarring Chinese colleagues and co-workers. The missionaries ought to be more than willing to welcome every native Christian anxious to take part, for from them the most practical advice is likely to be forthcoming. It is quite fair, this being a gathering of public interest, to demand that the members of it should strive after correctness in all details; but there seems to be a shyness to deal with them faithfully on the part of many journals. It is conventional and respectable to publicly applaud "good works," even if privately there be more disposition to criticise.

CREMATION OF CHINESE.

(*Daily Press*, 2nd May.)

The Hongkong Sanitary Board has not often lately had a subject of such wide interest to discuss as it had at the last meeting on Tuesday, when the problem of abandoned corpses and their treatment was brought forward. The Government's efforts to have a stop put to the certainly objectionable practice of "dumping" corpses on the public streets have not met with success, and the number recorded for the first quarter of the current year seems to have inspired the authorities with a determination to make a desperate stand against this shocking and dangerous custom, for custom it may now fairly be said to have become. The Sanitary Board was asked to offer suggestions for the mitigation of the evil, and the Medical Officer of Health hit upon the idea of cremating all corpses found abandoned. There is not the slightest doubt from his remarks that he regarded his means as a probable deterrent, but the President, while supporting the suggestion on other grounds, held that as a deterrent it would be sure to fail. Mr. LAU CHU-PAK therefore was quite pertinent when he said that as the Government's desire was for some deterrent, they had no business to be discussing the question of cremation on the lines laid down by the President, as the "most sanitary and the most reverent method of disposing of these bodies." The Hon. Mr. BREWIN made the same point, and Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN echoed it, and the practical result of the discussion was that an apparently irrelevant motion was lost and the Government's request for practical suggestions ignored. We would not like to say that the motion, for cremation was quite irrelevant, nor do we agree that the adoption ovf cremation would ultimately fail as a deterrent of "dumping." It would fail, we dare say in one way; that is, it would not shock the Chinese because of its being, as Mr. LAU-CHU-PAK alleged, "against the Chinese religion." Obviously with people who throw corpses down on the public street and abandon them, no religious scruples or sentimental respect for the dead can be said to weigh against the comfort of personally avoiding trouble and expense. The COLONIAL SECRETARY in a dispatch to the Board discounted in advance the argument that "dumping" was a result of the Chinese wish to escape the visitation of the disinfecting officers. While quite convinced that in many ways the Sanitary Board has made unreasonable demands upon poor Chinese tenants as well as on landlords, in their futile fight with regularly imported contagion, we think the COLONIAL SECRETARY right in his conclusion that "dumping" is not promoted by those considerations. We are surprised that the discussion did not lead any one to guess at other causes. Mr. LAU CHU-PAK approached nearest to the obvious issue when he remarked that "we should investigate the conditions under which this class lives." We venture to assume that a very little investigation would discover the true cause of "dumping." We suspect it to be found in the one word "poverty." It is a curious thing that East and West do meet in one particular, the ostentation and expense which convention demands should accompany the advent of Death in a poor family. The best argument for cremation in England, in our opinion, apart from the undoubted fact that it is the most sensible and hygienic treatment of dead bodies, should be that it simplifies and cheapens funerals. It will be when it is generally adopted and so less expensive. Paupers often pinch and starve themselves, and lie and obtain relief on false pretences, that they may board up money so as not to be "buried by the Parish," so that they may not, poor, misguided fools, "lose face" when that time comes when the opinions of their neighbours shall have ceased to matter to them. It is heart-breaking to observe the waste of badly needed money at obsequies in poor districts, and we have often thought that the conscience of an undertaker with such clients must be deader than that of a dishonest company promoter. The same phenomenon may be witnessed here and in China. The poorest of the poor must have their ghastly procession, with the quaint banners and symbols, and hypocritical hired mourners. We may be told that these shabby, tawdry manifestations of woe cost less than at an English funeral, but proportionately we have no doubt they are as great a tax. Now, while the repugnance to pauper funerals is as great among the English poor as is, say, the Chinese objection to dumping, there are still very many such burials at public expense. We suggest that there are so many cases of "dumping"—1,447 in 1906—for a like reason, mere inability to face the cost of the conventional funeral. But, it will be asked, why do they not rather apply for the free interments that are offered? Here again we suggest that the fear of "what people will say" applies. The poor Chinese (and poverty has not lessened in the Colony within the last two years, by the way) cannot afford to do what is expected of them. Of the remaining alternatives, both distasteful and from their point of view shameful, they choose the least troublesome. That, briefly, is why we do not consider the proposal to adopt cremation altogether irrelevant, and why we regret that it was not adopted. We would go further, and recommend compulsory cremation all round, in the interests of economy as opposed to wicked waste, and in the interests of public health. As for it being "against the Chinese religion," that is all stuff and nonsense. It may be against

sentiment, but it is high time that common sense prevailed, and the shock would soon be got over, like a dose of nasty medicine, if the Government were to pass such an ordinance. "Dumping" is resorted to in various parts of China, we understand, in country places as well as in cities, when extreme poverty demands it, and provided the Government undertook cremation, and returned the ashes or bones to such relatives as wanted them, there would be very little religious outcry. At the same time, while it is remembered that a religious scruple is the chief obstacle to cremation in England, it would not be fair to over-ride Chinese sentiment and respect that of the others, were it not that by "dumping" these bodies the poor Chinese who do so have already made sacrifice of their right to expect reverence. Thus to cremate all abandoned bodies as an immediate step would not be unjust, and if it did not check "dumping," it would not encourage it. Fortunately the adverse vote of the Sanitary Board does not prevent the Government from considering the question, and we hope the Legislative Council may see its way to taking this first step towards a reform that will ultimately have to come. There is not so much land to spare on this island that we can afford to waste it on people who have no real use for it. If it is moral and just to prevent poor Chinese from gambling, it is also moral and just to prevent them from extravagant funeral rites, and here the wealthy of all races, European and Asiatic, have a duty to perform, in setting a wiser example. We shall welcome a decision to cremate these "dumped" corpses, not as a deterrent of that particular evil, but as a step to a general reform that will abolish many evils.

CHINESE METAPHYSICS.

(*Daily Press*, 3rd May.)

If the China Society never has a less interesting monthly meeting than that held towards the end of March, its members will have reason to be glad of its formation. A paper by Professor GILES of Cambridge, on some psychic philosophies or metaphysical concepts enunciated by Chinese thinkers of the past, was read and followed by an interesting debate. The latter was a characteristic bout of sinologues, but with less acrimony than sometimes intrudes when the pen, instead of the tongue, is the weapon. Most of those taking part would not be surprised to find that Chinese thinkers had long ago groped as far into the unknown as any of our European classics or standards, but elsewhere we note that the announcement gave rise to a disposition to patronizingly pat the wisdom of the East on the back, so to speak, for its intelligent anticipation of European cleverness. Dr. ARTHUR SMITH's reputation notwithstanding, the Chinese intellect has been anything but turbid, and it is frequently productive of humility when the western speculator discovers how very much further than his own leaders the Oriental has gone with transcendental gymnastics. For subtlety and sanity unseparated, it is not easy to beat the Chinese metaphysicians. They had a nebular hypothesis of their own while Europe was still satisfied with the creative feat of an anthropomorphic conjurer, and we are disappointed to find that Professor GILES considered it necessary to guess that the idea of soul transmigration must have been imported. The more we learn of other peoples' folklore and beliefs, the more we are led to conclude that the human mind is limited to a certain set of ideas, which, however, are practically universal and suggest themselves as occasion arises. The recognition of mortality and concomitant desire for life's prolongation, dreams, the discovery of the Ego, like external phenomena, are inevitable intruders into universal meditations, and it is ridiculous to suppose that any one nation or race has a patent for originating solutions or hypotheses. What Professor GILES referred to as the "ancients", with their wonderful vitality reminding us of the clan Methuseleh, represent part of the universal myth of a "golden age", the "good old times" of whose existence present-day grumblers are always convinced. All these solutions or hypotheses, European or Asiatic, may be distilled into phials of comfort and hope, meant as mental anti-dotes to the ever present poisons of dissatisfaction and fear. The Asiatic idea of immortality seems to be a more rational one than that of some European critics of metempsychosis; or at least more satisfying to the intellect. It is easier to conceive the image of a circle than of an endless line. CHU HSI, however, exists to prove that even here the Chinese mind differs little from those others, for he considers it absurd to imply that there is a fixed amount of vital force in the Universe, or that nature cannot produce as well as transmutate. The idea of millions of immortal souls being constantly born is less thinkable, however, for we have to go backwards only a little way to find one end of immortality, which is absurd. The Chinese intellect, however, after enjoying such gymnastics to the full limit, was elastic enough to stand the strain, and encouraged by the super-wise CONFUCIUS, it does not take such speculations too seriously. They are merely holiday tasks, after all, or mental constitutionals. With the question whether the conscious Ego survives and remembers and perceives, CONFUCIUS cunningly fenced.

"If I say that the dead are conscious I feel that filial sons and dutiful grandsons will neglect the living in order to do honour to the dead; and if I say that the dead are not conscious, then I fear that unfilial sons and undutiful grandsons will leave their parents' corpses without burial. My son, if you would know whether the dead are conscious or not it will be enough to find out when you go among them yourself."

During the discussion Mr. IVAN CHEN of the Chinese Legation quoted the Sage to prove that he had not abandoned the belief in spirits. CONFUCIUS always refused to talk of supernatural phenomena, telling one disciple that our duty was to living men, why should we inquire about our duty to dead men? But from such statements we should not (argued Mr. IVAN CHEN) be led to think that CONFUCIUS had given up belief in the existence of spirits, because he said in another instance, "When you are offering sacrifices to the spirits of your deceased ancestors you must behave yourselves as if the spirits were present." We do not see that that proves the wise old man was superstitious; it can be held to show that he believed in the good (to the living) of acts of worship

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The members of the S. V. C.—Officers, N. C. O's, and men of all branches of the corps—gave a complimentary dinner to Mr. H. Keswick, Chairman of the Municipal Council and late Commander of the Infantry Battalion Shanghai Volunteer Corps, on the eve of his departure from Shanghai. On April 20th the Corps to the strength of about 150 "fell in" at the Palace Hotel, determined to give Mr. Keswick a hearty send off. The Commandant, Lieut.-Colonel W. M. Watson, presided over the festivities.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on April 30th at the Board Room. The Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (president) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. Chatham (Vice-President), Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin (Registrar General), Hon. Mr. F. J. Badeley (Captain-Superintendent of Police), Mr. H. Humphreys, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. Fung Wa chun, and Mr. G A. Woodcock (secretary).

THE CHINESE AND CREMATION.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY wrote as follows relative to the number of dead bodies found cast away in the Colony:—I am directed to submit to you the enclosed return showing the number of dead bodies found cast away in the Colony by the police during the first three months of the current year. During that period there has practically been a total absence of plague or other infectious disease. It cannot therefore be alleged that these bodies have been cast out to escape disinfection of premises. During the last few years the Government has made every effort to put a stop to the wholesale dumping of dead bodies by the Chinese population. The latest measures in this behalf have been to allow the Tung Wa hospital to open branch offices where the following facilities are given for dealing with sick and dead: Licentiates of the Chinese College of Medicine are on duty at each office to certify as to the nature of the diseases and to give free medical service, and to issue burial certificates in case of death when asked for. Clerks are also on duty to explain Sanitary regulations, to attend at the removal of patients suffering from infectious disease, and to be present at the disinfection of infected premises. Ambulances and dead boxes are provided and sick persons and corpses are removed by the coolies of the office—the coolies living in the Sanitary Department quarters and being under the supervision (as regards their observance of sanitary precautions) of the inspector in charge. Infants are received at each office, a reward of $1 being given to the person bringing the infant. The living are sent to the convent, the dead to the mortuary. Arrangements are made for removing cases of plague from the Colony. Finally, the Tung Wa hospital has been permitted to open district plague hospitals for the reception and treatment of cases of plague.

s these elaborate measures appear to fail in checking the disgraceful abandonment of dead bodies in the street and elsewhere, I am to inquire whether the Sanitary Board has any suggestions to offer for the mitigation of the evil.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: There seems to be only one other course left, and that is to cremate all bodies found in the streets. I don't believe that anything also would stop the dumping of dead bodies. I would allow 24 hours clear, after the body is found, for it to be claimed by relations, and if not claimed after that interval of time, then the body should be cremated.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK'S minute on this subject has already been published.

Mr. COOPER minuted—The Hon. Colonial Secretary says that licentiates of the Chinese College of Medicine issue burial certificates where asked for, whereas Mr. Lau Chu-pak says these licentiates have no power to pass the dead for burial unless the deceased had been attended by one of them before death. Which is correct?

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN.—At present licentiates of the Chinese College of Medicine are only authorised to issue burial certificates for patients they have attended, but I think they ought to be empowered to issue certificates for all cases, as their opinion is certainly better than that of the inspectors. With regard to the Tung Wa branch offices, there are now only six, which are quite inadequate to meet the requirements, and in my opinion these will have to be at least doubled. The present branch offices are supported by private subscriptions from the Chinese, and I think the Government should vote a sum which would defray half the expenses for maintaining the present branch offices and the extra men required. It has been arranged by the Hon. Registrar General, with the committee of the branch offices, to engage a lecturer to explain

publicly in the streets the Sanitary regulations and to impress on the poorer class the folly of dumping their dead. As regards cremation suggested by the Medical Officer of Health, I strongly disapprove of this step, as it is against the Chinese religion and would naturally offend all classes of the Chinese community. In any case it would only be treating the dead with disrespect as the guilty party who dumped the body could never be traced, and would not suffer in the least.

The President—It appears from the police report that last year there were no less than 1,447 bodies dumped in the streets or precincts of the Colony. This year the number in the first three months was 377, and of these only 133 were cases of infectious disease, leaving 244 not suffering from infectious disease. It is impossible not to conclude that the scheme propounded by the Registrar General, Messrs. Lau Chu-pak, and Fung Wa-chun, in 1904, has proved ineffectual in stopping this dumping. I move that the Board recommend the Government to adopt cremation as the method of disposal of these bodies and my object in doing so is not that this action should be taken as a deterrent. If it were taken for that purpose I think it would be sure to fail. My reason in making this recommendation is that I think it is the most sanitary and the most reverent method of disposing of these bodies. I think you will agree that it is the most sanitary and I think I can prove it is also a reverent practice by mentioning that cremation has been adopted in China since the introduction of Buddhism. Throughout China I understand the bodies of priests are cremated. This can be seen at Canton on the Honam side. The elaborate rites of Taoism do not preclude cremation provided that the bones are collected and buried with due formality. In view of the fact also that there may not be sufficient land in the future for the burial of Chinese this method of treating the dead bodies found in the streets ought to be introduced. If it were adopted by the Government it might become as popular as it is in other countries. In order that this result should be achieved it would be necessary to issue a proclamation to the Chinese pointing out that this is not done with object of hurting the feelings of the Chinese and that after the bodies have been burned the ashes will be placed in urns and the relatives will be able to take them to whatever part of China they wish in order to bury them so that it would no interfere with the national ancestral worship. With regard to dumped bodies the urns would have to be interred in a place selected by the Government.

The Hon. Mr. CHATHAM seconded.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK—I am sorry I must oppose this motion The dumping of bodies is a problem which cannot be solved by siting down and writting things off every moment. The Government does not want to know how to dispose of the dead bodies but how to stop dumping. If the Government is troubled with the disposal of the dead bodies the Tung Wa Hospital is always ready to undertake to bury them and there are Chinese gentlemen perfectly willing to contribute to a fund for the burial of these bodies. The suggestion of cremation is in my opinion useless and harmful inasmuch as it will not stop dumping but will intensify the alarm of the poor labouring class of Chinese in the Colony. The problem can be solved in this way. We should investigate the conditions under which this class lives. The better class feel much concern about dumping as anybody else and I am convinced the people who dump bodies are those of the labouring class. The Registrar General is doing his utmost, with the help of a Chinese committee which has since been largely increased to pacify the minds of the Chinese and to encourage them by giving them facilities for treating their sick and burying their dead. I am certain that if greater facilities were given the Chinese to treat their own people at home and to bury their dead, dumping will be gradually stopped. As regards cremation, the section of people in China who have embraced Buddhism is very small, and only a few of these are cremated. Even the Buddhist priests are not always cremated. It is against the Chinese religion to have bodies cremated. I am sure Chinese do not want to dump bodies if they have facilities for treating their sick at home and burying their dead. I think the proper way is to ask the Government to leave the matter in the hands of the Registrar General, to open more hospitals and dispensaries among the labouring classes, and the labours of the Registrar general and the other gentlemen who are willing to work with him will, I am sure, result in the enlightenment of the people and dumping will gradually be stopped.

The Hon. Mr. BREWIN—If cremation is not proposed to prevent dumping and not intended as a deterrant then it is useless to discuss it on this occasion. What we are asked to do now is to consider the question of remedies for the evil. I am sorry to see that you remain apparently in doubt as to the origin of this practice. You mention that only about one third of the bodies which have been abandoned this year had died from infectious disease. You must recollect that the Chinese are not capable of diagnosing plague, even though they may be able to diagnose smallpox, and I am satisfied that this practice is simply due to the sanitary laws and the way in which they are administered. That has been the unvarying and unanimous opinion with any Chinese with whom I have spoken and my knowledge of the feeling of the Chinese towards the Sanitary Board, and my knowledge of Chinese families with whom I am acquainted satisfies me that the opinion is a correct one. These figures (quotes) ought to satisfy any unbiassed person that the practice is due to what I suggest. Nothing can account for the large increase in dumping except the plague and the oppressive measures enforced to suppress it. If we are satisfied this is the origin of the practice it seems to us quite natural that the Government should refer the question to us, because as a Sanitary Board we are to a certain extent responsible for the laws being obnoxious to the sentiments of the Chinese community. I am sure we do not detect more than 50 per cent. of the cases of infectious disease which occur in the Colony. Smallpox cases are smuggled out of the Colony, therefore we must have a law obnoxious and ineffective. It should be our intention to render the law more effective and in consonance with local conditions. Cremation would be equally ineffective. The only way the practice can be stopped is to obtain the cooperation of the leading members of the Chinese community, and that cooperation can only be obtained on certain conditions. The Chinese have lost all confidence in us, they don't know what to expect in the way of sanitary measures. We must try to restore that confidence by showing them that we will display the same respect for their social and religious feeling as we would have to display for the social and religious feelings of people in a town in England if we had the same trouble there If you are willing to do that you will obtain the hearty co-operation of the leaders of the Chinese. Until you are you must expect them to remain indifferent and hostile. Mr. Fung Wa-chun was in my office the other day, and I read to him the principles which commend themselves to the Government of India and which I ask the Board here to adopt. If we do I am satisfied that in time without a great deal of trouble we will obtain the co-operation of the Chinese and render the law more effective than it is at present without any friction. You cannot expect to gain that confidence at once or in one year to wipe out memories of what they have suffered during the last twelve years. If once we adopt these principles we will take the first step to put a stop to a dreadful scandal which is a blot on the fame of Hongkong and, as the Chinese admit, a disgrace to the Chinese community.

The PRESIDENT—With reference to the remarks of the Registrar General, more especially dealing with the extract concerning plague measures in India, I think our experience here certainly justifies the steps we have taken. In India they have practically stopped all plague measures with the result that plague is as rife as it has ever been if not worse. They have given in to the natives and practically stopped all methods for prevention. Our experience in Hongkong is otherwise, as plague has distinctly diminished within the last twelve years. After quoting figures in support of this statement he proceeded—Therefore that shows we are maintaining some hold on the disease as a result of the measures adopted in Hongkong. I fail to see that we have not asked the Chinese to co-operate with us. The Government have taken every measure possible to be taken in order to obtain that cooperation and if they won't help us we must take firmer steps. In the three months of this year there have been many more cases than in the first three months of 1905 and it is with the object of dealing with this evil that I have proposed the motion now before you. The Registrar General admits that this practice did exist before plague was prevalent here at all, as there were over 230 bodies *dumped* in 1893, so it cannot be entirely due to plague.

Mr FUNG WA CHUN—I am sorry I cannot agree with the motion. If you can satisfy me that cremation is of any good, if you can prove to the people that cremation will stop dumping, then I might change my mind. This is a thing very much against the Chinese. What has the Government done for them? The President says they have given every concession to the Chinese. I admit certain concessions have been given but the Government has not done any work. The Chinese have been doing the work. I would suggest that more branch hospitals be opened to give inducement to the Chinese If you can start cremation and carry it on effectually all right, but I don't think you can.

The amendment was carried.

THE GOUGH STREET AFFAIR.

Regarding the accusations levelled against sanitary officials and an interpreter at the Magistracy concerning a case which was heard there concerning a latrine in Gough Street, the Colonial Secretary wrote:—

With reference to the letter of the Secretary to the Sanitary Board No. 70 of the 4th inst., I am directed to transmit to you for the information of the Board the enclosed copy of a report by the Police Magistrate who heard the summons against Chan Pui—owner of the Gough Street latrine—together with the original depositions in the case.

Mr. Melbourne's report read:—Mr. Nolan, the interpreter attached to the Court, interpreted the charges to the defendant, who pleaded guilty to both. Defendant stated that it was not his fault, but that it was the fault of his fokis. I informed him that he was responsible for the faults of his servants and fined him $30.

Mr. HOOPER minuted—Why was the notice to the owner not delivered at his residence as required by Section 37? As the Secretary admits a clerical error in the inspectors' report, and in the Board's letter of 2nd February I think that portion of the fine on the first charge should be remitted. It would be well for the Medical Officer of Health to inspect these latrines to ascertain if they are really in a dirty condition.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—The clerical error appears to me unimportant, and I don't think it is a case for remission.

The President—The clerical error was to replace it instead of repair it?

The Secretary—Yes.

The President—No other action is necessary. There is the other point.

The Secretary—The reason why the summons was left at the latrine instead of at the owner's residence was because the owner was seldom found at his house and the Inspector thought that if he handed it to the keeper of the latrine the latter would give it to the son who went to the latrine every day.

SANITARY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Sanitary Surveyor's report for the quarter showed that plans had been deposited and passed for the drainage of eight houses, and that plans for 110 houses were carried forward from 1906. The drainage of 17 houses had been completed, leaving 101 to carry forward. Notices for repairs or alterations to the drains of 72 houses had been received, and 74 were carried forward from 1906, making a total of 146 in hand. Of these 17 had been completed leaving 129 to carry forward. The drains of 25 houses had been inspected and reported on. Of these six required reconstructing, fourteen amending, and five were found to be in good order. In addition 1,918 houses had been inspected by the drainage inspectors with the

result that 315 drainage nuisances had been discovered.

The report was laid on the table.

THE CLEANSING OF WASTE PIPES.

The Anglo-Chinese Education Trust wrote stating that they had complied with the requirements of a notice for the cleansing of waste pipes. They also suggested that the Board should in future instruct the visiting inspector to direct the attention of the occupiers to the existence of the nuisance.

The PRESIDENT—It is evident that, as this is not a structural defect, the notice should be served on the occupier.

Mr. HOOPER—I agree with the President's minute.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—The notice should be served in accordance with the Ordinance. I believe this means the occupier.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—Such notices should be served on the tenants. I am not aware that owners like to clean these pipes themselves.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN—I agree with the President.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—Who is legally responsible for clearing the choked pipes?

The letter was laid on the table.

A HARSH AND UNJUST SECTION.

Further correspondence was laid before the Board relative to a modification of the requirements of section 175 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903 in respect of Nos. 191 to 223 Station Street North, Mongkoktsui (22 houses on Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1,103.

The PRESIDENT moved that the matter be referred to the Governor-in Council with a recommendation that no steps be taken.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I beg to move as an amendment that the Board allow this application to stand over pending Government action in regard to the report of the Commissioners.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK seconded the motion.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—If I may be allowed to speak again, the medical experts seem to somewhat differ: that is, the Medical Officer of Health opposes total exemption even if it is possible, but the assistant Medical Officer of Health seems to be somewhat in favour. I think the Board might exercise its discretion and use its own judgment entirely free from either in a case where they disagree. Once more I would impress upon members the harshness and injustice of section 175 when enforced without regard to anything but the strict letter of the law. When this section, as it now stands, was first introduced the unofficial members of the Legislative Council were hoodwinked into believing that no change in the law was being made. They did not find out till afterwards that the words "by the owner" had been surreptitiously inserted. The effect of this alteration was not long making itself felt and property depreciated, and it is still depreciating in consequence. Even Government Officials of high standing admit that the enforcement of this section is tantamount to confiscation, if the owners are poor and have borrowed money on mortgage. In the case before us there is no question of appealing to the Board *ad misericordiam* but gross injustice can be done nevertheless. Here we have a block of shallow houses surrounded on all sides by streets which appear to be so sanitary that for four years the vigilance of an army of inspectors failed to detect anything wrong. The typhoon, however, blew down one of the houses and the secret was out. Perhaps if the typhoon had blown down a portion of the Hongkong Bank it would have been discovered that it too required a back yard notwithstanding its being open from Des Vœux Road to the Kowloon Peninsula. The owners are not poor people in this case, and whether the Medical Officers differ or not we should use our own discretion and allow it to stand over.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL said he minuted that the matter should stand over, his reason for doing so being that it was stated by the owners the houses were only completed as late as August 12th, 1902. About six months later they became illegal and the law required that back yards should be laid down. He certainly thought it was an exceptional case and agreed with Mr. Humphreys that the Board should ask the Governor-in-Council to allow the matter to stand over.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I forgot to mention in regard to these houses that they were only completed in November, 1902, then in accordance with the law, and they were more or less built under Government directions. In February, 1903, they became illegal and the whole of the backs had to be taken out from the roof to the basement.

The PRESIDENT's motion on being put to the meeting was lost and the amendment was carried.

Messrs. Denison, Ram and Gibbs wrote on behalf of Mrs. Leung Sze, of 56, West Street, asking that she be exempted from opening out one half of her back yard as required by section 175 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance. The house was practically rebuilt in 1901 and was surrounded by open air on three sides.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK minuted—No action should be taken as long as the right-of-way is not built over.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—This is a corner house. The application should be forwarded for consideration of the Governor-in-Council, and it should be stated that the Board is of opinion that the law should not be enforced at present.

Consideration deferred.

SUPREME COURT.

Saturday April, 27th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

JUDGMENT.

His Honour delivered judgment in the action brought by the Sy Yick Company, of 137, Queen's Road Central, against Jorge and Company for $849,77 loss suffered by the plaintiffs by reason of the defendants' breach of contract. The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. Atkinson), represented plaintiffs, Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C. (instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro), acting for defendants.

His Honour said: This is an action to recover $849,77, being damages suffered by the plaintiffs for non-delivery of certain goods under a contract, dated 5th May, 1906. At this stage it is well to point out that although the statement of claim purports to show how the sum of $849.77 was arrived at, yet there is no evidence before me of any re-sale, or, in fact, of any actual loss, except a bare statement by the managing partner of the plaintiff firm that they had sustained loss to that amount by buying to replace. The contract was in duplicate as usual in English and on the back was an endorsement in Chinese. The first question for consideration therefore is whether the contract is contained in the Chinese endorsements for in the English version, and it must be noted that it is only the English version that is signed by the parties. The contract sued on by the plaintiffs and signed by the defendants is exhibit No. 1, and the counterpart chopped by plaintiffs and produced by the defendants is exhibit No. 5 and I shall refer to them in that way. Mr Pollock, on behalf of the plaintiffs, contended that the Chinese endorsement on exhibit 1 contained the terms of the contract. It appears that a broker named Sing Ki, *alias* Kam Chun, acted on behalf of the defendants in arranging the terms of the contract, and that he had done so on previous occasions and that the endorsement on exhibit 1 was written under the instructions of the broker, and that the endorsement on exhibit 5 was a mere memorandum made by the plaintiffs' manager who had little knowledge of English.

His Honour, having referred to the contracts and the knowledge of English and Chinese possessed by the plaintiffs, and after reviewing the evidence, said: I am of opinion that the plaintiffs cannot succeed as they have not shown any necessity for purchasing goods to replace those not forthcoming, neither have they shown that they actually suffered loss.

Judgment for defendants with costs.

China, on April 26th, paid into the Yokohama Specie Bank the price for the purchase of the Hsinmintun-Mukden Railway.

Monday, April 29th.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

THE TOBACCO CASE.

The re-trial of Charles Humphrey Kane on the charge of larceny of tobacco from the British-American Tobacco Company whilst in their employ as a clerk was opened, the accused surrendering to his bail and again pleading not guilty. The Hon. Mr. H. H. J. Gomperts (instructed by Mr. Morrell from the Crown Solicitors' office), and Mr. M. J. D Stephens, conducted the prosecution and Mr. H. G. Calthrop (instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Bratton), appeared for the defence.

The empanelling of the jury was marked by one or two incidents. The prisoner challenged one man and the Crown objected to other two, while Mr. H. Percy Smith was excused from serving. Mr. L. Knox was dealt with for not answering his name in time, this incident being reported elsewhere. Finally the following were sworn in: Messrs. P. E. F. Stone (foreman), F. H. Pentycross, G. Pickering, A. W. Dixon, R. J. C. Schwein, J. Johnson, and H. S. Henley.

The Attorney General outlined the case for the prosecution. It will be remembered that accused was charged with stealing a quantity of Egyptian Delight Tobacco which formed part of a shipment of tobacco to the company, and which he should have seen consumed on the foreshore according to instructions. The Attorney General referred to the fact that the godown keeper who had given evidence for the prosecution afterwards withdrew his previous statement and gave testimony in favour of the prisoner. In conclusion he alluded to accused's dealing with the Banks, sending drafts to America, and giving expensive presents to several people.

Clerks from the Russo-Chinese, German and International Banks were called. Their evidence went to show that he had opened an account at the first named bank with $7 0 and had withdrawn it in small amounts (cheques) in the course of two months, and he had opened an account at the German Bank with $500 which a few months later he had reduced to $10 odd, when he closed the account.

Mr. Harper Jackson, accountant at the Savoy, said that accused had dealt there for eight months, his purchases averaging $25 a month for which he practically paid cash. Defendant lived two months at the Connaught Hotel last year, for which he told witness that he paid $100 a month. He went there he said because he had lost a diamond ring from the flat where he had previously lived, and he thought it better to move. He showed witness a diamond ring and told him the lady to whom he was going to give it if he was her accepted suitor. (Laughter)

The Attorney General intimated that that concluded the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Calthrop submitted there was no case to go before the jury. His Honour asked where a number of people who appeared at the Magistracy were, and on being informed that they had absconded remarked that the bottom seemed to be knocked out of the prosecution. He continued that the whole point was whether extravagant living was corroborative evidence. There was a rule that a jury might not convict on the evidence of an accomplice. He would warn the jury that such evidence should be treated with the gravest suspicion. While he would not say that there was no case he would say that there was not much evidence.

As the jury did not indicate that they did not wish to hear any more, evidence for the defence was called to show how accused had obtained the money banked, and how in remitting drafts to America, he had acted for others.

The hearing was adjourned.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT).

ALLEGED BREACH OF CHARTER.

Messrs. Carlowitz and Co., merchants of 2, Connaught Road Central, Hongkong, sued

the Lombard Steamship Company, Ltd. of 23A, Great St. Helens in the City of London, for the recovery of $12,000, being damage sustained by plaintiffs by reason of the breach of charter party of the British steamship *Salamanca* entered into at Hongkong on 7th February, 1902. The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. R. F. C. Master, (of Messrs Johnson, Stokes & Master,) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Looker, of Messrs, Deacon, Looker and Deacon for the defendants.

The statement of claim indicated that plaintiffs were merchants in this Colony and the defendants were the owners of the s.s. *Salamanca*. Their place of business was in London and one John White was manager. On or about 7th February, 1902, defendants or their agent J. K. Anderson, who was then master of the *Salamanca* then in Hongkong, chartered a vessel of the plaintiffs under a written charter party signed on 7th February, 1902, for a period of 6 months, with the option of renewal which the plaintiffs thereafter duly exercised for a period of three months at the rate of $6,500 Hongkong currency per month, payable fortnightly in advance to Messrs. Bradley and Company in Hongkong, as agents for the defendants upon the following terms and stipulations:—the steamship being firm and staunch and free from known defects and well officered so to be maintained by her owners and placed at the sole disposal of the charterers or their agents to carry cargo and passengers for lawful voyages as provided, and the usual clause about exemption from the result of accident through the act of God, etc., the steamer was to be docked and cleaned by the charterers whenever recommended by the surveyor's report at owner's expense, the time occupied in docking not to count under the charter, and in the event of any delay or breakdown not caused by stress of weather payment of the hire was to cease until the vessel was again staunch, sound and well found as provided in the first clause of the charter. The captain was to give 24 hours' notice whenever the vessel needed repairs provided it was possible to do so. On or about the 29th April, 1902, plaintiffs entered into a charter party with the East Asiatic Trading Company, Hongkong, whereby they re-chartered the said vessel to that Company for a term of about six and a half months, the balance of the term of the plaintiffs, said charter, at the enhanced rate of $7,250 per month payable every month to the plaintiffs, the charter party containing the same terms and conditions as the first. On or about the 1st July, 1902, the Eas. Asiatic Trading Company, with the knowledge and consent of the defendants, re-chartered the vessel to the United States Government for service as a transport for troops, animals, stores, cargo etc., it being stipulated that the said vessel should proceed at once to such ports as ordered by the proper officer of the Quarter Master General's department, the owners to keep the vessel in same condition as stipulated for in the first charter party; time lost owing to accidents not the fault of the United State, Government not to be paid for by the latter The vessel was accordingly handed over to the U.S. Government to be used as a transport and on or about 3rd July, 1902 owing to the negligence of the said J. K. Anderson, then Master, the vessel ran ashore in fine clear weather on a reef near San Salvador Island in the Philippines, and was so damaged that she had to be towed off and docked at Cavite at the expense of her owners. No notice of that accident reached the plaintiffs until 1st August, 1902, and the plaintiffs had in the meanwhile, in ignorance of the fact, paid to Messrs. Bradley and Company the hire for the vessel for the whole of the month of July. The repairs were completed by the 9th September but the defendants neglected for a number of days to discharge the Dock Company's men and thereby caused the U. S. Government to cancel the charter party, and in consequence of the default of the defendants the East Asiatic Trading Company, which had as defendants rechartered the steamer at a profit, had to cancel the charter with the plaintiffs in their turn, and the plaintiffs then cancelled their charter with the defendants, the defendants having failed and to fulfil to perform the conditions of their charters party by not placing the steamer at the disposal of the plaintiffs after the repairs in proper time.

Mr. Pollock addressed the Court, and the case was adjourned.

Tuesday, April 30th

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

THE TOBACCO CASE.

The re-trial of Charles Humphrey Kane for the larceny of Egyptian Delight Tobacco, the property of the British American Company, was resumed yesterday.

David Ellis and Harry Goldenberg gave evidence for the defence.

Defendant, on going into the box said he was born in San Francisco where his father was a merchant. Having studied there his father sent him to Japan to undergo a military course. His father gave him $1000 gold. That was in March, 1905. Shortly afterwards his father died and he gave up his prospective military training and travelled. In January 1996 he came to Hongkong and went to a friend of his mother's, who advised him not to carry about the $1000 which he then had in his possession. He handed the money over to her and subsequently drew several sums from her as he required them. On the death of her husband she returned the balance of $709 which he deposited in the Russo-Chinese Bank.

Mr. Calthrop then addressed the jury on behalf of the defendant. He described the manner in which Mr. Harrison gave his evidence as unsatisfactory.

The Attorney General having addressed the jury,

The Puisne Judge summed up. He pointed out that there was no doubt that the tobacco in question formed part of the shipment per the *Nubia* and there could be no doubt that defendant did not see the tobacco burned as was his duty. There could be no doubt that the tobacco found its way unlawfully into the hands of the shopkeepers in Queen's Road. The jury ought not to convict on the uncorroborated evidence of the accomplice. As to the accomplice, it would appear that his conscience had been at work and he had changed his attitude, but his Honour thought there was something more material to explain his conduct. On his own showing, defendant had been living beyond his means, and it was for the jury to decide whether that was corroboration or not.

After a short absence the jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and the defendant was discharged.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT).

ALLEGED BREACH OF CHARTER.

The action in which Messrs. Carlowitz & Co., merchants of 2, Connaught Road Central, Hongkong, sued the Lombard Steamship Company, Ltd., of 23A, Great St. Helens in the City of London, for the recovery of $12,000, being damage sustained by plaintiffs by reason of the breach of charter party of the British steamship *Salamanca* entered into at Hongkong on 7th February, 1902 was resumed. The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. R. F. C. Master of Messrs. Johnson Stokes and Master, appeared for the plaintiffs and Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Looker, of Messrs. Deacon Looker and Deacon, for the defendants.

Mr Pollock having presented the case for the plaintiffs Sir Henry Berkeley opened the case for the defence. On behalf of the defendants it was submitted that the terms of the charter party, dated 7th February, 1902, were not sufficiently set out in the statement of claim, and one of the provisions of the charter party was that the penalty for non-performance thereof should be the estimated amount of damages payable by the party delinquent to the party observant. In, and for a considerable period before the month of July, 1902, a state of war existed in the Philippine Islands, and voyages to ports therein were not lawful voyages within the meaning of the charter party. The plaintiffs were therefore unable, without the consent of the defendants, to re-charter the ship to the United States Government in the Philippine Islands for such voyages although the said employment was highly profitable. On or about the 22nd April, 1902, the defendants, at the request of the East Asiatic Trading Company, who, as the defendants understood, were acting as agents in the matter, consented to the plaintiffs re-chartering the vessel for such voyages, in consideration of the payment, by way of increased hire, of $1,000 per month, for six months from the 15th May, 1902. The defendants did not at that time know of the alleged charter of the vessel by the plaintiffs to the said company, or by the said company to the said Government, and the defendants have never been parties to such charters, nor aware of the terms thereof. Such charters, if they were made, are irrelevant to this action, and do not affect either the rights or liabilities of the plaintiffs and defendants under the charter party. Save as aforesaid the charter remained in full force and effect until the plaintiffs improperly refused to fulfil the terms thereof. The defendants admit that the vessel was injured in the accident mentioned, but deny that such accident was caused by any negligence on the part of the captain or any servant of the defendants. The accident was caused solely by one of the accidents of navigation, which was one of the exempted perils in the charter party. The defendants do not know when notice of the accident reached plaintiffs. The hire for the month of July, 1902, was paid to the defendants. The defendants have not been guilty of negligence at all. As soon as the repairs were completed and the amount payable in respect of same could be properly ascertained, the defendants paid the same at once, and on 20th September, 1902, the vessel was replaced at plaintiffs' disposal, in the condition required by the charter party, but the plaintiffs improperly refused to accept the ship or to fulfil the terms of the charter-party, and thereby caused the defendants damage. Defendants deny that they have made default in any of the terms of the charter-party, and have always been ready to carry them out, and so far as the ship was not at plaintiffs' disposal during a period of the charter, that was due to an excepted peril. In any event the defendants deny that the circumstances entitled the plaintiffs to cancel the charter-party, and therefore counter-claim from the plaintiffs the sum of $24,292.75, being the hire for the unexpired portion of the charter.

The hearing was adjourned.

Wednesday, 1st May.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT).

ALLEGED BREACH OF CHARTER.

The action was continued in which Messrs Carlowitz & Co., merchants of 2, Connaught Road Central, Hongkong, sued the Lombard Steamship Company, Ltd., of 23A, Great St. Helens, in the City of London, for the recovery of $12,000, being damage sustained by plaintiffs by reason of the breach of charter party of the British steamship *Salamanca* entered into at Hongkong on 7th February, 1902. The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. Bailey, of Messrs. Johnson Stokes and Master appeared for the plaintiffs, and Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Looker, of Messrs. Deacon Looker and Deacon, for the defendants.

Sir Henry Berkeley continued his address for the defence.

Mr. Pollock explained to his Honour that his clients had agreed to the production of certain documents because they did not wish to put defendants to the expense of getting evidence from home.

Sir Henry—That is so, my Lord. We are very much obliged.

Sir Henry continued his arguments, and the case was again adjourned.

Thursday, 2nd May.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE Mr. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

AN ACTION FOR FOUR DOLLARS.

Cheung Choy, contractor, sued H. Ruttonjee and son, D'Aguilar Street, for $13,50. Mr. O. D. Thomson appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro for the defendants.

Mr. Thomson said the $13.50 was for work done and material supplied in the limewashing and painting of defendants' premises. Nine dollars had been paid into court.

His Honour—You are fighting for about $4.

Mr. Thomson—Yes.

His Honour—You had better send it down to the Registrar. Do you think it is worth while fighting about $4?

Mr. Thomson—Yes. I think it is.

His Honour—Well I don't.

Mr. Thomson—There was an original contract for $9 for limewashing. After this was done defendants employed plaintiff to paint the verandah for $5.30. The question was whether that was included in the limewashing.

His Honour—It seems rather trivial.

Plaintiff admitted having entered into a contract for $9, the amount paid into court.

Defendant said the $9 was inclusive.

Judgment was given for defendants with costs, his Honour remarking that it was only one man's word against another's.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR F. PIGGOTT).

THE CHUN SHUN KOO BANKRUPTCY.

Another was added to the many judgments in the proceedings connected with the Chun Shun Koo bankruptcy.

His Honour said—

This application is for the refund of a sum of money advanced to the Official Receiver by the bankrupt's brother in order to prevent the sale of their property which it was desired to preserve.

There has clearly been some irregularity in the matter as I made an important order and there is no record of it. I had therefore to trust to my recollection and to act on it. I remember the Official Receiver coming to me not more than an hour before the date of the sale of the bankrupt's property which it was desired to stop, and asking for permission to take an advance from the debtor's brother for the purpose. There was apparently no time to draw up any regular order at the time, nor to prepare the document which would have been necessary for the purpose of the estate under s. 14 (i) (6) of the ordinance, and it is obvious that the necessary for drawing up the necessary document afterwards must have slipped from the Official Receiver's memory. Mr. Wakeman is one of the most careful of officers, and such a slip on his part is most unusual; but I can only say that if the Government persist in making one officer do the work of two, it is surprising that there are not more mistakes made in the conduct of complicated business. I am glad however that I feel jutified in remedying the mistake and not allowing the applicant to suffer from it. As to whether it was to the interest of the creditors that this money should have been borrowed it was pointed out that in the result it has proved not to have been in their interest; but I must look at the matter as the Official Receiver viewed it at the time, and as he expended $1,000 belonging to the estate for the purpose, I must assume that if he had had in his hands sufficient money to stop the sale he would have done so, and not have obtained this advance. I must therefore treat the advance as if it had been made regularly, and the money must be repaid; so that the estate will be in the same position as it would have been in if the whole amount had been advanced by the Official Receiver.

I am also asked to decide the priority as to the Trustee's remuneration, and the petitioning creditor's costs. The estate has been a troublesome one and the Trustee is entitled to a larger remuneration than usual, and I fix it at $500, which I understand is a larger sum than he would obtain from the usual five per cent. But as to his priority I cannot depart from provisions of s. 33 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance, which gives priority to the petitioning creditor's costs after certain expenses incurred by the charges paid to the Official Receiver. I have no authority to read "Trustee" into the word "Official Receiver." I shall allow the Trustee's remuneration the same priority as is given to it in rule 125 of the English Act This will be equivalent to making a rule in that behalf under the powers given to the Chief Justice by sec. 79 of the Ordinance: and for the future that rule, subject to section 33, will be a rule of Court, which will be drawn up in due course.

I fear that the Trustee will get nothing out of the estate: though perhaps he may be able to look elsewhere. I think in future that some provision will have to be made when the order for the appointment of a trustee is granted making the creditor who applies for his appointment responsible for his remuneration in the event of the estate possessing nothing wherewith to pay him.

AN INTERESTING APPLICATION.

Re the E Yuen firm Mr. Dixon, from the office of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings, made an application to set aside an adjournment of examination. He did so on behalf of Messrs. Jardine Matheson and Company who asked that the examination in the above-named debtor's bankruptcy, which was adjourned on February 21st, be annulled.

Mr. Morrell, from the Crown Solicitors office opposed the application on behalf of debtor and argued that he ought to have been served with an affidavit showing on what ground they wished the adjournment set aside.

The Chief Justice held that it was unnecessary.

Mr. Morrell said he wanted to know something of the grounds on which the application was made.

Mr. Dixon replied that his friend was perfectly well aware of the grounds of the application.

His Honour having stated that there was no such thing as the bankruptcy of a firm.

Mr. Morrell replied that the receiving order must be made against the firm.

His Honour—The receiving order is a convenience.

Mr. Morrell argued that the local ordinance provided for such a procedure, but

His Honour ruled otherwise

The adjudication was annulled.

BANKRUPT PHOTOGRAPHERS.

Re the Long Hing firm. Long Hing said the photographic business in Queen's Road was formed with a capital of $10,000, of which he contributed $1,000. Last year the firm lost $15,000 and the partners drew out $8,000. The liabilities amounted to $11,000 and the assets to $140.

The public examination was adjourned.

A CHINESE BRIGAND CHIEF "WANTED" IN CHINA.

Before Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe at the Magistracy on the 1st May Mr. G. E. Morrell, Crown Solicitor, applied on behalf of the Chinese Government for the extradition of Lau Yuk-ting who is wanted in China to answer a charge of armed robbery. Mr. R. A. Harding appeared for the defence.

[The defendant is the man who formerly appeared before the Court on the charge of demanding money with menaces. It will be remembered that sometime ago he called at the family house of Mr. Sien Ting, demanded a certain amount of money, and told that gentleman that he was a notorious robber chief. Mr. Sien Ting secured him and handed him over to the Police, and then certain other prominent Chinese told the authorities that he had also secured money from them through menaces.]

Mr. Morrell informed his Worship that this case was the old, old Chinese story of the industrious man who made a little money, and of the vagabonds and rogues who wanted to squeeze it out of him. In this instance they failed to get what they demanded and robbed the man's place of business. The complainant's name was Chan Kai-on and he was the proprietor of 400 li of land in the Panmiahs village, Heungshan district, China. He let out his land to other people, the arrangement being that he should find the labour, and that when the crops were gathered in the labour would be a first charge on the proceeds, the owner taking 60 per cent. of the balance and the tenants 40 per cent. For the purpose of this he kept an accountant and a field overseer who were left in the matshed of the premises and kept the accounts. On September 3rd last year these two men were asleep in the matshed about midnight. At that hour they were awakened by somebody calling to them. When they arose they found that the large kerosene lamp in their quarters had been lit, and that five men were in attendance who had evidently entered through the large door, which had been broken down. They identified the prisoner as one of these five men, and picked him out in the Hongkong jail from among a dozen others. The defendant demanded $1,000, at the same time stating that he belonged to the Kwong Sing Tong, which the speaker took it was somesort of a robber band. As the proprietor was not there the fokis would not give the band anything, so they produced firearms and threatened the fokis. They then ransacked the matshed and took $34 80 in money, a clock, two muskets and other articles Not content with these spoils they took the two fokis up the river and kept them for some 20 days in a matshed while they communicated with the farmer demanding $500 ransom. The farmer eventually paid it and the men were turned loose and sent away. Then they got to Macao, stayed there one night and went home, when the matter was duly reported to the Mandarin, but it was not till this month that the man was arrested.

Evidence was called, and the case adjourned.

"TLICKS OF THE TLADE."

An interesting case was heard before Mr. Wolfe at the Magistracy on Apl. 26th. Gunner Brown, of the R. S. A., summoned the master of the jewellers' shop at 59 Queen's Road Central for fraud. He said he had given defendant a gold ring to enlarge by the addition of a certain amount of gold, and defendant undertook to do this for $2.50. When complainant called on the day mentioned for the completion of the work he was informed that the ring was not ready. He returned a few days later and received the ring, paying the price stipulated. At the time he asked if that was proper gold and he was informed that it was better gold than had been in it before. Not altogether satisfied the complainant took the ring to another jeweller who informed him that some gold had been extracted and another mixture put in. It also showed two holes which indicated that the defendant had bored to ascertain whether it was gold throughout. His Worship thought the simplest plan would be for defendant to return the money paid to him for the work, but complainant pointed out that the ring which was a keepsake had been lessened in value.

His Worship—Will you promise to return the ring in its original state?

Defendant—Yes.

His Worship—What would it cost. He has already paid you $2.50 for making a mess of it.

Defendant—Five or six dollars would make right.

His Worship—Well you had better pay him the money and let him have it done himself.

The money was afterwards handed over to complainant.

The fifteen students mentioned in the April 20th leader as passing through on the French Mail to Europe were mostly selected from the military school at Yautsun (in the vicinity of Paoting) by General Tieh Liang who, in view of the coming reorganisation of the Imperial navy of China, has requested the Waiwupu to consult Sir John Jordan with reference to the dispatch of a similar number of young officers and students to study up-to-date naval subjects in England. It is reported that the British Government has granted the request of the Chinese Government and Sir John will shortly draw up some special rules with the Waiwupu for the observance of such cadets.

ANNUAL POLICE REPORT.

The annual report of the Captain-Superintendent of Police for the year 1906 is published in the *Gazette*. It shows that the total of all cases reported to the Police was 11,144, as against 11,517 in 1905, being a decrease of 373 or 3.53 per cent. In the division of these cases into serious and minor offences, there appears an increase, as compared with 1905, of 349 cases or 11.69 per cent in the former, and a decrease of 722 cases of 8.46 per cent. in the latter. The increase, as compared with 1905 in serious offences, of 349 is shown as follows:—

Murder	2
Kidnapping and Protection of Women and Children	9
Unlawful Possession	266
Larcenies	90
Felonies	18
	3
Deduct decrease in	
Robbery	3
Burglary or larceny from dwelling	31
Assault with intent to rob	2
	26
Total	349

It will be seen that the increase is mainly in "Unlawful Possession," the cause being the looting of wrecked property which occurred after the typhoon of the 18th September.

There were eight murders during the year, and in five cases no arrests were effected. Four men who were arrested in connection with two of the cases were hanged. The manslaughter cases number fifteen. In one instance no arrest was effected, while in seven cases the defendants were discharged. The remainder were committed to prison for various terms. There were 20 gang robberies reported during the year. In connection with seven of these cases, 21 prisoners were arrested, seven being convicted and 14 discharged. In 13 cases no arrest was made. Four of these robberies took place in the City of Victoria, three occurring in the Central and one in the Western District. Of the remaining 16 four were reported from Yaumati District, two from Shaukiwan, one from Pokfulam and nine from the New Territories. Sixteen cases of Street and Highway Robberies were reported. In connection with three of the cases four persons were arrested and convicted. In 13 cases no arrest was made. Of these robberies only one was upon a European. Nine robberies on boats and junks were reported of which five occurred in the New Territories. In connection with three of these cases, six persons were arrested, two being convicted and four discharged. In six cases, no arrest was made. Felonies not already mentioned comprise:—Arson and attempted arson, three cases; cutting and wounding, 18; demanding money by menaces, 8; embezzlement, 30; forgery, 8; housebreaking, 102; indecent assaults and rape, 6; manslaughter, 14; shooting and wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm, 4; throwing corrosive fluid, 3; sodomy and attempted sodomy, 5. One hundred and fifty gambling warrants were executed and convictions obtained, as against 98 in 1905. Two were lottery cases. In 36 cases no gambling was found. The value of the property reported stolen during the year was $123,569 82. The value of the property recovered by the police and restored to the owners was $20,725.40. 3,138 Search warrants for prepared opium were executed by the Police and Excise Officers of the Opium Farmer, as compared with 3,951 in 1905. In 911 cases opium was found and 1,169 persons were arrested. The examiner of weights and measures examined 3,594 scale and measures out of which number he found 30, all belonging to Chinese, incorrect. A conviction was recorded in each instance, the total fines amounting to $1,225. In 14 prosecutions under the Dangerous goods, Ordinance, fourteen convictions were recorded, the total fines amounting to $70. There was one conviction under the Food and Drugs Ordinance, the amount of the fine being $25. Licences issued to drivers and bearers of rushes, chairs and other vehicles totalled 16,677. Eight licences to import and deal in arms and five to deal in sporting arms and ammunition were issued during 1906. During the whole year a Proclamation has been in force prohibiting the export of warlike stores from the Colony. The following arms and ammunition were seized and confiscated during the year, viz:—29 revolvers, 3 rifles, 45 muskets, 70 daggers, 2,198 rounds rifle ammunition, 3,513 rounds revolver ammunition, 52 rounds sporting ammunition, 21 boxes percussion caps, 255 lbs. powder, 5 lbs. dynamite and one sword stick. During the year eight Europeans and 34 Indians obtained certificates for knowledge of Chinese and seven Indians obtained certificates for English. The usual quarterly inspections of all stations were carried out by the Deputy Superintendent and Assistant Superintendents, and I have myself made surprise inspections at each Station. Sham Shui Po Station was almost entirely destroyed by the typhoon of 18th September, since which date the police have been temporarily housed in the village.

41 persons were identified as old offenders by means of finger impressions, of whom 18 were persons who had not served sentences in gaols, having been convicted of unlawful possession and paid their fines. Three were men who had been banished from the Straits Settlements. Of the 120 who had been in gaol all except 11 were recognised as old offenders by the gaol warders, independently of the finger prints. The collection on the 31st December, 1906, number 6,08 male and 302 female records The conduct of the European contingent has been on the whole very good. The total number of reports against them was 59, as against 73 in 1905. There were 10 reports for being drunk or under the influence of drink as against 12 in 1905, one for asleep on duty (same as last year), two for disorderly conduct and 10 for neglect of duty. Nine of the 10 cases of drunkenness, and 19 of the other offences, were committed by men who are no longer in the force. One European constable was convicted by the Police Magistrate for assault. The conduct of the Indian contingent was only fairly satisfactory. There were 448 reports, as against 384 for the preceding year. For drunkenness there were 45 as against 36, for disorderly conduct 33, as against 20, for neglect of duty 46 as against 41, for absence from duty 65 as against 75, for gossiping and idling on duty 107 as against 83 and for asleep on duty 35 as against 15. The average strength of the contingent was considerably higher than in the previous few years, and there were more recruits than usual. Ten Indian constables were convicted by the Police Magistrate, three for disorderly conduct, one for using insulting language, three for assault, one for misconduct as a Police constable, one for allowing a prisoner to escape and one for larceny as a bailee The behaviour of the Chinese contingent was not satisfactory. There were altogether 1,129 reports, as against 996 in 1905. There was one report for drunkenness (same as last year), 113 for asleep on duty as against 87,23 for disorderly conduct as against 35, and 387 for minor offence as against 361. Ten Chinese constables were convicted by the Police Magistrate, six for assault, two for larceny and two for misconduct as Police constables. The seamen, coxswains and stokers had 300 reports as compared with 242 for last year. For drunkenness there was no report as against one in 1905, 193 for absence from station and late for duty as against 147 in the previous year. Three seamen were convicted by the Polic Magistrate, one for giving false testimony, one for bribery and one for larceny. One Indian sergeant and one Indian constable were granted rewards for smart capture of three murderers, one Indian sergeant was granted a good conduct medal for plucky conduct in securing the arrest of one wanted for stabbing, and two Chinese detectives were granted good conduct medals for meritorious services. A large number of Police were commended by His Excellency the Governor for good work performed during and in connection with the typhoon of the 18th September. The Assistant Superintendent, Mr. E. R. Hallifax, who was seconded to the Transvaal Government, returned on 3rd April and went on leave on 21st April. Mr. G. N. Orme acted during his absence. Seventeen Europeans were engaged during the year, 10 were recruited in England and seven enlisted locally.

NEW TERRITORY WORK.

Mr. G. F. Orme, Assistant Superintendent of Police, reports as follows concerning the New Territory:—

The state of the Territory in 1906 has been quiet and orderly. The greater part of the robberies during the year were reported from the direction of Mirs Bay, and appear to have been perpetrated by bad characters frequenting the Chinese Territory on the east coast of the Bay. The land border is now fairly well protected, and only one robbery was reported along it: the Yau Fu, Ma Tak Shan, who has since been promoted to a post in Heung Shan, and the other Chinese Officials have rendered active assistance in putting down border crimes. Three murders took place during the year—at Tai Po, on Ping Chau Island and on the Kowloon Hills; in the first case three men were captured by Indian police near the border and eventually executed. Larcenies and assaults were not frequent, and the use of illicit opium was as usual responsible for most arrests, while the practice of fishing with dynamite is still common and difficult to prevent. The health of the Police has been good throughout the year, and there is in this respect no fault to be found with any station except Au Tau and Sai Kung which have suffered from fever as before. The railway work has been in progress during most of the year and has provided work and wages for a large number of men: a few extra police were detailed for railway work, but the conduct of the workmen has so far been exemplary. The general prosperity of the Territory suffered a set back from the typhoon of September 18th, which, caused serious loss of life and property, but it does not appear that any widespread distress was caused thereby. Nor was any difficulty experienced in collecting most of the Crown rent, though the Sheung Shui district, which enjoys an unfortunate proximity to the gambling facilities of Suam Chun, has paid slowly, and the landowners living in Chinese Territory have utilised to the full their power of passive resistance. The native paths in the valleys have deteriorated considerably, especially owing to the September rains, and the general traffic and police patrols have suffered thereby. However, much of the inconvenience caused will cease with the construction of the the Government road from the Sha Tau Kok to Ping Shan and Un Long.

THE FIRE BRIGADE.

Captain F. J. Badeley, Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, in his report for the year 1906, says there were 30 fires and 67 incipient fires during the year, as against 32 and 77 in 1905 The estimated damage caused by fires was $658,970.00 and by incipent fires $21,748.00. The Brigade turned out 44 times during the year. There was an intermittent supply of water in the mains from 15th March to 18th April during which period sea water was used as much as possible in order to save the fresh water. Two occurred in the harbour during the year. There was one prosecution for arson in connection with the fire at No. 147 Wing Lok Street. Four men were arrested and charged and committed for trial. The Attorney General did not proceed with the case. The conduct of the Brigade has been good.

Mr. D. Macdonald, engineer of the Brigade, reports that the floating fire engine was sunk during the typhoon on 19th September, 1906, near the western entrance to Causeway Bay. On being raised the hull of the launch was found to be so badly damaged that it was decided to build a new hull. The pumps, propelling engine, and boiler, which suffered slight damage, have now been thoroughly overhauled and repaired, and await the completion of the new hull. The land engine by Shand and Mason has been 23 years in service (Boiler nine years old). It has been regularly used and tested at monthly drill for drivers and fires, was overhauled during the year, and is now in good working order. A second land engine by Shand and Mason has been 21 years in service (Boiler retubed in May 1904). It was regularly used and tested at monthly drill for drivers, overhauled at regular intervals during the year, and is now in good working order. A third Land Engine by Shand and Mason has been 25 years in service (new

firebox fitted to boiler in April 1904). It has been thoroughly overhauled during the year and used regularly at drills for drivers and fires, and is now in good working order. Another Land Engine by Shand and Mason which has been 20 years in service, is at present out of commission, owing to the boiler tubes giving out during a monthly drill. The firebox of this boiler was previously reported to be in a weakened condition. A new firebox has been ordered from the makers and this engine should be in working order again at an early date. All the manual engines and gear, hose, reels, ladders, and supply carts have been kept in repair, and are now in good order and condition.

BOTANICAL AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT.

The report on the Botanical and Forestry Department for the year 1906 is published in the *Gazette*. It states:

Garden Notes.—To make up for the losses and disappointments caused by the weather, the year was characterized by a quite unusual influx of useful additions to the herbaceous collections. From Mr. W. H. Wallace, whose garden at Amoy is one of the most beautiful in the coast ports, came two of the best acquisitions, viz., a large variety of Hemerocallis aurantiaca and Cosmos "Eldorado," both of which are doubtless destined to play an important part in Hongkong gardens. No less import from the point of view of their probable wide cultivation in the Colony are the greatly improved varieties of Canna which Mr. J. Barton, after importing and successfully growing them for a year, most courteously placed at my disposal. There is no plant that contributes more bountifully to our local gardens than the Canna and these finer sorts should soon be widely known. For the same reason but in a less degree Alpinia malaccensis collected by Mr. E. H. Wilson in Yunnan in 1899 and presented to the Gardens may replace our common but less beautiful Alpinia nutans. Besides these Verbena venosa, received from the Superintendent of Parks and Open Spaces at Shanghai is sure to become a favourite, as it is a vigorous and showy summer annual. By sending seeds of Gomphocarpus physocarpus Lady Blake has added one more to the list of interesting novelties for which Hongkong Gardens are indebted to her. Among the numerous useful and ornamental plants introduced through the kindness of our Chief Justice, Sir Francis Piggott, from Mauritius during the year must be mentioned Ipomœa coccinea an important addition to our October flowering plants. It is remarkable that one of the most showy plants in the gardens during that month was Artemisia lactiflora, the whole of our stock of which was raised from a single plant which appeared casually in the gardens in 1905.

Year's Weather.—From the wet foggy spring of 1906 until the stormy autumn the year was one of the most unfavourable on record for gardening operations. The show of spring-flowering annuals so conspicuous in most years was entirely spoiled by the continuous rain of March and April and, as the planting out of the summer annuals could not be done at the usual time for the same reason, the appearance of the grounds suffered greatly during the early part of the year. On no less than six occasions from May onwards was it necessary to carry all moveable plants into shelter in consequence of typhoon warnings. On the memorable 18th of September the gardens were wrecked by the sudden typhoon that caused such terrible havoc throughout the Colony on that date. There is no previous record of any such destruction of trees and garden stock. The actual repairable damage was very great and was not made good much before the end of the year, but more serious must be considered the temporary disfigurement of the gardens, the previous beauty of which ten years will hardly restore. Unfortunately also the total loss of several trees of scientific or economic interest has to be reported. Perhaps the most regrettable losses were those of the large tree of Aleurites cordata, the only full grown example in the Colony of this important wood oil tree, and of the interesting Bauhinia still unnamed, our only tree of which stood at the corner of the deer-pen Many fallen trees re-erected after the typhoon of the 18th might have survived by virtue of the unbroken half of their roots, had it not been for the second typhoon which blew them down in the opposite direction thus completely severing them from the ground.

The chief recipients of plants and seeds were:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Messrs. A. Babington, J. Barton; Sir Henry Berkeley, Lady Blake; Botanic Gardens, Jamaica and Mauritius; Bureau of Agriculture, Manila: Mr. Chao Lup Chee; Cheung Chau Police Station; Commissioner of Customs, Amoy; French Convent; Messrs. F. A. Haseland, F. Howell, H. Humphreys; Sergeant Kerr, Dr. Koch, Messrs. Lau Chu Pak, Felix Levieux (Mauritius), Li Pak; Professor Matsumura (Tokyo), Mr. C. Mol. Messer; Parks and Open Spaces, Shanghai; No. 5 Police Station; Sir Francis T. Piggott, Mrs. A. H. Rennie, Mrs. Rowe; San Tin Police Station; Lady Frances Turner, Messrs. Vilmorin-Andrieux (Paris), Lady Voules, Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Amoy), W. M. Watson and J. Xavier.

A fine collection of living economic and decorative plants was sent by the Acting Director of Forests and Gardens in Mauritius with the approval of His Excellency the Governor of that Colony and in co-operation with the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture. The thanks of the Hongkong Government have already been conveyed for this gift.

The other donors of plants and seeds were:—Mr. J. D. d'Abbadie; Agricultural Society, Madras; Arnold Arboretum, Messrs. A. Babington, J. Barton, Boehmer & Co., Lady Blake, (Ceylon); Botanic Garden, Calcutta, Jamaica, Mauritius, Singapore, Sydney, Trinidad; Rev. G. Bunbury; Bureau of Agriculture, Manila; Mr. Chao Lup Chee; Captain Hodgins; Mr. F. Howell; Imperial Department of Agriculture, West Indies; Inspector General of Forests, India; Messrs. C. D. Melbourne, Muir (Honolulu); Parks and Open Spaces, Shanghai; Sir Francis T. Piggott; Public Gardens, Capetown; Mr. Rowe, Professor Sargent; Messrs. Smith and Menzel (South Australia); Mr. F. P. de Soares; Southern California Acclimatizing Association; United States Department of Agriculture and Mr. W. H. Wallace.

The chief donors of animals were:—Sergeant Kerr, Messrs. J. M. E. Machado and H. A. Siebs.

Herbarium.—There is no museum of economic products in the Colony, and duplicates of the actual articles sent to London could not therefore be preserved: they can, however, be obtained when required without much difficulty. The specimens retained for reference are merely herbarium vouchers for the botanical origin of the economic products sent, which were classified and registered under their botanical names. The various items in all amounted to about 500 and their collection, botanical identification, and the compiling of notes as to their origin, manufacture, uses, etc, has of course absorbed a large amount of time, but it is hoped that this will be justified by the extended information concerning South China products placed at the disposal of the Imperial Institute staff and also by the basis which is now formed for a future economic botanical museum in the Colony. Now that attention has been turned to this side of the herbarium it is hoped that time will be found to accumulate a fairly complete set of Chinese economic plants.

The principal collection of wild plants added was that made by the Superintendent in Korea in September. Though the numbers are small (about 400) they are nearly all new to the Colonial Herbarium, a number are additions to the Korean collections already at Kew, to which duplicates will be sent, while not a few are fresh records for the country or species new to science.

Fleet-Surgeon C. G. Matthew, R.N., whose welcome return to the East on H.M.S. *Monmouth* occured during the year has determined the ferns of the Fokien and Korean collections and has very kindly got together a series of new specimens of local ferns for the herbarium. These are not only much better dried than the old ones but are also more complete and representative.

This is an appropriate occasion on which to thank Captain Hodgings of the S.S. *Haicheng* for the trouble and expense which he has incurred in making several collections of economic products and plants at Foochow for our herbarium and gardens.

The chief donors of herbarium specimens other than the above were—Comte de Boissieu, Mr. E. Merrill and Sir Ernest Satow.

THE HONGKONG OBSERVATORY.

The following extracts are from the report of the Director of the Hongkong Observatory, for the year 1906. Dr. Doberck says the comparison of weather forecasts, issued daily about 11 a.m., with the weather subsequently experienced, has been conducted on the same system as heretofore. The results are as follows:—Success 56 per cent., partial success 34 per cent., failure 1 per cent, partial failure 9 per cent. Following the method used in meteorological offices, and taking sum of total and partial success as a measure of success, and the sum of total and partial failure as a measure of failure, it follows that 90 per cent. of the weather forecasts were successful in 1906. The China Coast Meteorological Register was printed every morning at the Observatory. From first August this work was undertaken by the Government Printers, improved machinery ordered from home being used for the purpose. The printing has therefore been much improved and the issue of the register somewhat accelerated. In addition to the cable which connects the Observatory with the Cable Offices in Hongkong, we have now another cable connecting us with the Harbour Office. Since July the observations made at Gap Rock and Victoria Peak are transmitted to the Observatory through the Harbour Office, which Department now also undertakes the distribution of meteorological information on the other side of the harbour, with the exception of the China Coast Meteorological Register, distributed by the Government Printers, and a return send at 4 p.m. each day to newspapers, which is taken by one of our coolies.

Information regarding storms telegraphed to Hongkong was regularly exhibited on notice boards. This happened on 110 days in 1906. The typhoon gun was fired on four occasions. It should be remembered that this Government supports only the Observatory, and one other meteorological station (Gap Rock). All the other meteorolgical returns printed in the daily weather report are supplied free of cost by observers in surrounding countries, who are not in the service of the British Government, and of course, not subject to any regulations made by the British authorities. Several stations furnish reliable information, while the returns from others are more or less irregular. The barometric observations telegraphed from some stations in China are frequently erratic. The thanks of the Government are due to the Telegraph Companies, who continue to forward meteorological telegrams from outports to Hongkong free of charge, and also to the staffs of the Eastern Extension and Australasian Telegraph Company at Sharp Peak, Hoilo, Bacold and Cebu who make and transmit observations twice daily. Unfortunately the telegrams coming over Chinese lines from Hoihow and Pakhoi are usually too late to be of service. As our warnings in connection with typhoons in the China Sea are based mainly on reports received from the Gap Rock lighthouse, it is of the utmost importance that the cable between Hongkong and Gap Rock should be always in working order. From Victoria Peak the direction of the wind and the reading of the anemograph are telegraphed every hour from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. It is of importance that this service should be continued during the night whenever required. The amount of success attached to the firing of the typhoon gun to indicate local gales during the 23 years, 1884 to 1906 inclusive, has been determined according to the method adopted by meteorological offices at home. According to this method of counting, the storm signal is justified if followed by a gale of force 8 and upwards within 48 hours at a place near sea-level within 50 miles of the place where the signal is hoisted. It is a failure because "too late" if it blows a strong gale (force 9) before the signal is hoisted. According to this way of counting, a failure has to be recorded every time the NE monsoon freshens to a strong gale (hich rarely happens), although we never presume to fire the typhoon

gun to signal the freshening of the NE monsoon. The typhoon gun has been fired 44 time since the Observatory was started on the 1st January, 1884, *i.e.*, during the past 23 years. During this period it has 48 times blown a gale of force 8 and upwards. Once in January (norther), once in February (norther), once in June (typhoons), 8 times in July (typhoons), 10 times in August (typhoons), 16 times in September (typhoons), 8 times in October, (typhoons), once in November (typhoons), twice in December (northers). There were three instances when a strong gale occurred, and the gun was not fired, but in each case the typhoon had been previously notified several hours in advance by notices and signals issued. On three occasions the gun was fired and no gale followed, owing in one case to recurvature of the typhoon, and in two to no local gale resulting from the typhoon, the centre of which passed the Colony. Twice the gun was fired too late. In the first case warning had been given some hours previously by the hoisting of signals, and in the second instance, that of September 18th, 1906, both signal and gun were late. It will thus be seen that warning was given of every typhoon that blew in the Colony during the past 23 years, except in case of that of September 18th last, when owing to the extremely small diameter of the disturbance, its existence was not known beforehand and the indications were insufficient to justify the hoisting of signals till half past seven in the morning (Hongkong Mean Time). Could earlier warning have been given it would doubtless have contributed to the saving of life and property as far as the boat population in the harbour is concerned. The damage in the Colony must in any case have been extensive, for apart from the suddenness with which this gale came on, it occurred at flood tide, which, owing to the typhoon, was of exceptional height and was responsible for a great deal of damage along the sea front, against which no precautionary measures would have availed, the damage being quite out of proportion both to the duration and severity of the storm. The maximum hourly wind velocity 77 miles, registered between 9.30 a.m. (H.K.M.T.), did not reach full typhoon force. On the other hand there were during this interval some four or five squalls of great severity. During 1906 in addition to meteorological registers kept at about 40 stations on shore, 2,064 ship logs have been copied on board or forwarded by the captains. The total number of vessels, whose log-books have been made use of, was 314 The total number of days' observations (counting separately those made on board different ships on the same day) was 16,610. In 1906 the number of transits observed was 542. The axis of the transit instrument was levelled 276 times and the azimuth and collimation errors, which are less liable to variation were determined 39 times by aid of the meridian mark. Since the return of Mr. Plummer from leave of absence on the 24th February these observations, which were previously made by Mr. Figg, have all been made by him. No alterations have been made in any of the standard clocks during the year and the going of all has been fairly satisfactory. There were two failures of the Time-ball during 1906. On the 26th July the ball was prevented from falling intentionally because a flash of lightning occurring about 8 seconds before 1 p.m. had reversed the magnetism of the galvanometer and it was impossible to judge whether any other damage had been done. On the 2nd June the ball was also intentionally prevented from falling but that was owing to a mistake on the part of the observer in charge. On twelve other occasions the ball was not hoisted. A new site for a time-ball tower has been selected on Signal Hill near the meridian of the transit instrument. The plans for the new tower have been approved and its construction is proceeding. It is much taller and roomier than the old tower and other improvements have been introduced based on twenty-three years' experience. An eight-inch raingauge was fixed by me in the Police compound at Taipo about ten miles to the North of this Observatory. The total amount of rain it measured for the year 1906 was 93.22 or about a fifth more than at this Observatory. A new Halliwell raingauge has been worked throughout the year at the Observatory, and has been of great assistance in measuring heavy rain. Doctor Alessio of the Italian Cruiser *Calabria* visited the Observatory during the month of August for the purpose of making an accurate determination of the constant of gravity as well as of the magnetic elements. The magnetic hut was placed at his disposal for this work.

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED.

The Report of the board of directors to the eighteenth ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Company's Offices, St George's building, on Wednesday, 8th May :—

Gentlemen,—Your Directors have the pleasure to submit the accompanying Statement of the Company's accounts for the year ending 28th February 1907.

The balance at credit of profit and loss account is $110,469.72; after deducting directors' fees ($3,000) there remains a sum of $107,449.72 available for appropriation, and your directors recommend that this be disposed of as follows :—

To pay a dividend of 10 per cent :—	
Say $1.00 per share on 59,991 fully paid shares	$ 59,991.00
Say 50 cents per share on 9 part paid shares	4.50
To write off plant account for depreciation	44,120.80
To write off furniture account for depreciation	379.76
To carry forward to next account	2,953.66
	$107,449.72

The Manager reports that the number of lamps, fans and motors connected to the Company's Supply Service on the 1st April was equivalent to upwards of 44,500 lamps of 8 candle power. 85 Arc Lamps are maintained by the Company and 20 Electric Lifts are being operated by the Power Service.

The new system of Underground Feeder and Distribution Cables was completed and brought into service during the last Summer, displacing the old overhead distribution in the centre of the city with very satisfactory results. A new Water Tube Boiler was erected at the Generating Station during the Autumn, giving increased facilities for dealing with the Winter lighting loads.

A considerable amount of work has been done preparatory to the reception of two Diesel Alternator Sets of 300 H.P. each. A site has been levelled on the terrace at the back of the Station, on which will be placed the Oil Storage Tanks and Water Cooling Apparatus, and the west end of the Engine Room is at present undergoing reconstruction in order to provide space for the erection of these Diesel Engine Sets.

Directors—In accordance with the articles of association, Messrs. A. G. Wood and G. H. Medhurst retire, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Messrs. G. G. S. Forsyth and F. Maitland in place of Messrs. C. W. Hany and W. Hutton Potts, who are absent from the Colony. Messrs. C. W. May and W. Hutton Potts offer themselves for re-election.

A. G. WOOD,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 29th April, 1907.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FEBRUARY 28TH, 1907.

LIABILITIES.

Capital :—		
60,000 shares each $10 paid up	$600,000.00	
Less call unpaid on 9 shares at $5.00	45.00	
		$599,955.00
Sundry creditors		4,560.00
Dividends unclaimed		4,697.45
Suspense account		1,757.29
Balance of profit and loss account		110,449.72
		$721,419.46

ASSETS.

Plant, cost of, as per last account	$392,392.48	
Less amount provided for depreciation	42,392.48	
	$350,000.00	
Cost of plant, since added	74,120.80	
		$424,120.80
Property, cost of land and buildings as per last account	$ 91,329.97	
Less amount provided for depreciation	6 329.97	
	$ 85,000.00	
Cost of buildings since added	7,917.17	
		92,917.17
Installation material, stock of		51,364.43
Stores and coal, stock of		9,281.25
Tools, &c., stock of		1,130.10
Furniture, cost of, as per last account	$ 849.76	
Cost of furniture since added	30.00	
		879.76
Insurance, Value of unexpired portions of policies		1,290.00
Sundry debtors		34,247.14
Cash with agents		29,212.77
Hongkong and Shanghai banking corporation		76,976.04
		$721,419.46

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.

To agency and office expenses	$ 6,000.00
To rent and taxes	3,718.64
To insurance	2,591.00
To auditors' fees	200.00
To bad debts	1,646.67
To amount carried to profit and loss account	107,881.28
	$122,037.59

Cr.

By net profit on working	$121,503.03
By scrip and transfer fees	26.00
By interest	506.56
	$122,037.59

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.

To amount available for appropriation	$110,449.72
	$110,449.72
By amount of undivided profit, as per last account	$ 2,568.44

Cr.

By balance of working account brought down	107,881.28
	$110,449.72

THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

MUCH TALK OF "UNITY."

As we cannot pretend to spare space for anything like full accounts of the Missionary Conference at Shanghai, we adopt the eclectic method. The first day, April 26th, being devoted to talk about "unity" in founding a Christian Church for China, we give the following extracts, not quite coherent, to show that, as Omar might have said, while unanimity was meant, there was instead "much argument", and that the missionaries "came out as in they went."

Dr. J. C. Gibson of Swatow said at present they were not founding one Chinese Church but many, and the Committee felt that this ought not any longer to continue, that they ought not to go on planting and organising different Church bodies. Omitting General Societies like Bible Societies there were some fifty mission bodies at work and till lately at least they had been planting fifty Chinese Churches. The Committee was sure the Conference would say with one heart "This in future shall not be." Their divisions bulked largely in the public eye. They were pointed to by writers of the Roman Church. They disturbed the minds of the Chinese Churches, though to a less extent than was often alleged. There was a real danger that both to their own mind and in the minds of friendly and unfriendly critics these differences would be greatly exaggerated. The Committee asked them, therefore, to begin the Conference with a frank and earnest declaration in the eyes of the world that they were one. [Such a declaration, in addition to being "frank and earnest," would be no worse for being true.] These resolutions came up with the entire concurrence of the Committee on Comity and Federation. One other explanation he had to make and he did so with regret, and that was that there was not a member of the Baptist Churches on the Committee. He had endeavoured to correct this by conferring with the brethren of the Baptist Churches and the Committee hoped to keep their language within bounds that all might agree, but they found that there were some things which were not satisfactory to some of the Baptist brethren. The Committee hoped that unity would be attained by sending back

the wording to which objection was taken to the Committee who would have the assistance of five other brethren. In this way he hoped they would pass the resolutions with the hearty and entire approval of the Conference. Dr. Gibson proceeded further to explain the resolutions and said he did not believe that the work of different missions created difficulties in the minds of the members of the native Church. He thought the difficulty lay in explaining to them what the differences were. Beyond distinguishing that protestants were one mission and there was also a French mission--Chinese did not know any difference. It was imperative that they should stand apart from the Church of Rome. (Hear Hear.) In conclusion Dr. Gibson made an eloquent appeal for unity in the Mission field.

To the lay mind it is difficult to square "an eloquent appeal for unity," *Unum in Christo*, with an imperative injunction to "stand apart from the Church of Rome."

The Rev. W. Nelson Bitton (L. M. S., Shanghai) remarked that the Conference had come together to consider bases of unity, but individual members were successively voicing their own idiosyncrasies. He protested against an attempt to force the imprimatur of any Western Church on to the creed of a new Eastern Church, which should be left to formulate its own creed in its own time.

The Rev. E. W. Thwing (Honolulu) would solve the problem of Chinese unity of faith by basing it on the Scriptures. He himself found the Apostles' Creed helpful, but would not force it on those who did not approve of formulated creeds.

An attempt was then made to close the discussion.

Bishop Graves said the astounding statement had been made that there were statements in the Apostles' Creed which could not be accepted. While discussing unity at the commencement of their Conference they had got on dangerous ground. The Anglican Church in its desire to meet all had yielded much that it held dear, but if the amendments to leave out reference to the primitive Catholic Faith and the creeds were adopted the Anglican delegates would not be able to join in these resolutions. The Conference could not forge any more harmful weapon to place in the hands of the Roman Church than the slightest weakness whatever in expressing its belief in that primitive Catholic Faith.

The Rev. T. W. Pearce pleaded for more of the spirit of the Founder of missions in the consideration of these resolutions.

The implication of this is far from obscure. Mr. Pearce seems to have seen a need for his plea.

Bishop Bashford greatly deprecated any attempt of Chinese to organize a Church confined to the Chinese Empire. Churches should be world-wide and not national.

This is excellent, so far as it goes. Christian churches should also be world-wide and not sectarian, or dogmatic, or bigotted.

Mr. Endicott thought that of all forms of Christianity, that associated with some nationality was the most dangerous.

Dr. Lewis said there were fifty Missions at work in China, and to say that the proposition would strengthen the links with the home Churches would be to say that there were fifty links to be strengthened. It was idle to work for unity if these connexions were to be regarded as permanent.

Bishop Bashford's amendment was lost, and he then rose to ask what they expected the Home Churches to do when the Conference voted recommending the native Churches to break away from them?

At a public meeting at night, Dr Arthur Smith, whose famous book calls "intellectual turbidity" a Chinese characteristic, lectured on the accomplishments of a century's mission work in China. The benefits which Dr. Smith declared to have been conferred on China by "Protestant Christianity" were the idea of a God; the raising of women; purer lives of the people; a weekly day of rest; a sense of discipline; educational advance: printing presses; and many others.

AN "UNREPORTABLE" DISCUSSION.

The second session opened at Shanghai on April 27th:—

Dr. Gibson said he desired to call the earnest attention of the Conference to the despatch of business. There were important subjects to come before the Conference from day to day, which had been fully considered by representative Committees, and believed the resolutions submitted had been agreed to with practical unanimity. He therefore appealed to the Conference to refrain from merely verbal amendments. It was very desirable that the impression should not get abroad that there was strong divergence of opinion in the Conference and amendments which simply improved the literary effect of the resolutions might reasonably be omitted. A discussion similar to that of the preceding day was unreportable. From the report he had seen in one of the morning papers he could only say that he was astonished at the intelligence and skill with which it was presented (applause), but it was not right to put an unfair strain on those who were giving such valuable help and he therefore urged the Conference to agree to the proposal that all speakers should address the meeting from the platform.

Nevertheless the greater part of the second report consists of verbal amendments, dealing with resolutions on the training of native pastrts.

The Rev. L. Lloyd (C. M. S., Foochow) urged his hearers to give the native pastors time for study. In his own experience they were too frequently bound to give up to financial matters the time they should spend in study. Secondly, let them treat the native pastor as a cultured and efficient brother in Christ. He blushed to think of a young missionary who had come to his province, who interposed to pronounce the benediction at a service taken by a native pastor who had been ordained when the missionary was in long clothes.

Dr. G. W. Green (S B.C. Canton) said that the Chinese needed the example of their own people to lead them in Church work. The cry "China for the Chinese" ought to be encouraged, for the Chinese needed to learn patriotism. Sometimes they would say and do things which were wrong, but forbearance must be shown. Let them have Churches for the Chinese wit Chinese pastors to do the work which the missionaries could not do, and let the missionaries go on with the work that the Chinese pastors could not do. Dr. Greene pleaded for the independence of the Chines Church.

Dr. Walker (Shaowu) advocated the adoption of a bold policy. The Chinese pastors sometimes felt they were being treated too much like little children.

The Rev. C. H. Tjäder (Swedish Mission Haichou) thought only men "truly converted" should be substituted for "of unquestioned piety."

The Rev. Arnold Foster said "unquestioned piety" implied conversion, but conversion did not include "unquestioned piety." (Laughter and Applause.)

Dr. Bryan moved "That we sympathetically study the needs of our Chinese co-labourers and endeavour to assist them as much as possible."

The motion was not seconded.

The Rev. W. H. Watson (Changsha) proposed: "That in thus expressing its very strong opinion that all possible means should be used in order to provide an adequate supply of thoroughly trained Chinese Ministers—this Conference would not for the moment forget the sovereign rights of our Lord Jesus Christ as the Head of His Church, nor the fact that the call of His Spirit, first to the heart of the individual so called, and, then through his gifts, graces and fruitful service to the responsible officers of the Church, is the only sufficient and indispensable cause why any man should undertake the work of the Ministry—and that without such a call no man however brilliant or highly trained has any right to exercise that Pastoral Office."

The Rev. T. W. Pearce (C. I. M.) seconded.

The amendment was put to the House and lost.

Dr. Spencer Lewis believed they should pay their Christian preachers.

It was decided to lay on the table the question of the photograph of the delegates to the Conference, many members objecting to pose on the Racecourse Grandstand.

There was a garden party on Saturday afternoon, with tea, gaiety, and more speeches. Taotai M. Y. Chung for Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai said:—

"Since the advent to China of the late Dr. Morrison 100 years ago, you and your predecessors in the missionary field have attained marvellous results by your arduous endeavours: you have penetrated into the innermost portions of this Great Empire; you have worked hard and zealously to acquire an intimate knowledge of our language and literature, our manners and customs. Hardships you certainly have met and dangers you have braved. Richly have you been rewarded. Your work in the educational line, in the art of healing, and above all your noble and self-sacrificing labours in the alleviation of human distress and in the saving of life in times of famine or flood have won for you the deep gratitude of the nation and the appreciation of the Throne."

A curious omission may be noted in this Chinese catalogue of work done. There is no reference to the introduction of a new faith.

CHINA ASSOCIATION.

(FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.)

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of this Association was held by the courtesy of the P. & O. S. N. Co. at their office, Leadenhall Street, London, on Tuesday, 26th March Mr. J. H. Scott occupied the chair and there was a fair attendance of members. The meeting was preceded by a special one for the consideration of certain alterations in the Rules as proposed in a circular previously sent to members.

The CHAIRMAN said that owing to illness, Mr. Gundry had not been present at the meetings of the Committee for redrafting the rules, but he had pointed out that the omission of the word "General" from several of the rules would deprive the acts of the Committee of a certain amount of weight and significance necessary to clearly distinguish them from those of the local committees. The Committee felt the cogency of the argument and was willing to accept Mr. Gundry's suggestion, but as the proposed alterations had been circulated he thought the variation should come in the form of an amendment. The revised rules as circulated were passed unanimously with Mr. Gundry's amendment. The new rules provide for the appointment of a paid secretary. This terminated the special meeting.

In opening the annual meeting the Chairman congratulated Sir Jordan on having brought the negotiations for the Kowloon Canton Railway to a head. The line was important to Hongkong and the colony had been gratified by the energy shown by the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, in promoting it. The attempted encroachment on the status of the Maritime Customs had apparently been checked, and he saw no reason to apprehend danger to the security of the foreign loans; but there would be risk of interference with the administrators of the Customs so long as the Edict of May 9th appointing new Chinese comptrollers over the Inspector-General remained in force. He regretted that the association had been unable to persuade His Majesty's Government to exact punitive damages for the piracy last autumn of the steamer *Sainam*, accompanied as it was by the murder of Dr. MacDonald. The damages were sought, not for the benefit of the steamer owners, who had announced willingness that they should be given to some charitable institution in Hongkong, but with a view to bring home to the Chinese authorities their responsibility for outrages which it was their duty to prevent. A gratifying response had been made to the appeal made by the China Association for funds for the relief of the terrible famine prevailing on the north of the Yang-tsze, over £7,000 having been already subscribed. He paid special tribute to Mr. Murray Stewart's method of keeping the Association fully posted on every matter of importance connected with the Far East and referred to the great loss which the Shanghai Branch would suffer owing to the retirement of Sir Charles Dudgeon, stating that Sir Charles would be heartily welcomed on the London Committee. After expressing the hope that criticism would be freely offered by the members, who might rest assured that it would not be taken as com-

plaints, he alluded to the deficit in regard to income, but did not think that it need cause any anxiety.

Sir THOMAS JACKSON expressed pleasure that the Association was to retain Mr. Welch as Treasurer and said that during his term as President he had been deeply indebted to Mr. Welch for the thorough manner in which he had filled the duties of Secretary.

Mr. R. S. Gundry, C.B., was then re-elected President of the Association for the ensuing year, Mr. J. H. Scott, Chairman of Committee, Mr. George Jamieson, C.M.G., Vice Chairman, and Mr. Joseph Welch, Honorary Treasurer. The old Committee was re-elected with the addition of Mr. John C. Bois.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

COINAGE OF SILVER DOLLARS.

In consequence of the scarcity of Chinese silver dollars in circulation in Canton, Viceroy Chou Fu has communicated with the Board of Reorganization to the effect that the coining of new ones should be discussed. And in order to confine them to the exclusive use of this Province, he desires to encourage the placing of impressions on them by the various shops, by which means, their value in other provinces will be considered somewhat depreciated, and the demand for them will not be so great. He further desires that strict prohibitions should be enforced to stop the practice of the silver-ware shops in melting dollars.

VICEROY GOING TO KWANGSI.

The Viceroy contemplates a tour of inspection through the Kwangsi Province with the intention of studying the condition of affairs there.

THE CONTENTION OF RAILWAY PARTIES.

The gentry here have lately despatched a telegram to oppose the Viceroy's telegraphic proposals to the Throne for the appointment of Messrs. Wu Ting Fang and Cheung Pei Sze as Directors General of the Yuet Han Railway. Only the former will be recognized. But a telegram was received yesterday from Peking announcing their temporary appointment, and it will very likely cause trouble between the shareholders and gentry.

HONGKONG COINS AND NOTES

Upon receiving the despatch of the British Consul General here urging, at the instances of the Hongkong Authorities, the arrest of some Chinese for counterfeiting Hongkong coins and the notes of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, the Viceroy instructed the Magistrate to catch the men, allowing him half a month to fulfil his instructions.

April 29th.

VICEROY'S VISIT TO KWANGSI.

H. E. Chou Fu is going to Kwangsi because the rebellion which broke out there some two years ago was not completely suppressed by the former Viceroy, and he fears that the military forces are inadequate to quell any such trouble, which is expected to arrive. He is anxious to confer with H. E. Cheung, the Governor of Kwangsi, respecting the improvement of military conditions in order to be in readiness for the impending danger.

CANTON BRIDGE BEGUN.

The erection of the bridge across the river has begun. Boats and launches are anchoring off Hoi Chu near the two light-houses.

A DARING BURGLARY.

At about ten o'clock on the night of the 25th instant a thief made his way into the Account Department of the Provincial Judge's yamen and carried off a number of valuable articles. Before climbing the wall on his way out, he threw a box over. It happened that a policeman was standing near and this alarmed him. The thief, however, succeeded in making good his escape. The two watchmen are suspected and have been handed over to the Nam Hoi Magistrate.

May 1st.

VICEROY SHUM AND THE RAILWAY

The Directors of the Yuet Han Railway Company lately appealed to Viceroy Shum to support their opposition to H. E. Wu's appointment as Director General. Viceroy Shum, visiting his brother, Governor of Hunan, before leaving for Szechwan, ventured to Peking and was granted audience. Some here think it not unlikely that Viceroy Shum may be in Canton once again.

CANTON WATERWORKS.

In obedience to imperative Viceregal instructions, the putting of the main pipe into the ground has begun.

RAILWAY ENGINEERS COMING.

Messrs. Carr, arris, Hutton and Seanwo have been engaged by the Railway Company as engineers and the first two gentlemen are expected to leave Canada for Canton on the 15th May. To these may be added Tsoi Ting Fuk, who will shortly arrive here from North China. The first section of the railway from Wong Shato Ko Tong is nearing completion, and the trains may be able to start in June as the cars will arrive about that time. What is hampering the construction mostly is a hill in Tsing Yuen. The Engineer in-chief, Mr. Kwong Shun Mo, states that it will be necessary to bore a tunnel to expedite the conveyance of materials at present borne over the hill. He further states that upon the arrival of the two Canadian engineers as well as the Japanese and Chinese, they are to commence work at once in the section from Ko Tong to Tsing Yuen. Mr. Williams, who is now on the Canton-Amoy line, will have to make a survey of this road and the work will, at the same time, be portioned out to each of the engineers. It is reported that an American Company, manufacturing railway cars, will send out a representative to Canton. The Yuet Han Railway Company has again written these shopkeepers in that portion of Wong Sha where the company desire to build a station, to hasten their removal, that the work of pulling down their houses may begin at an early date.

MACAO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

April 30th.

Dr. L. P. Marques has been engaged by the China Commercial Steamship Company to go with the steamer *Suisang* to Mexico.

Plague increased last month in the Chinese quarters.

Some gentlemen interested in the construction of a railway from Macao to Canton held a meeting yesterday.

The Police held a public reception yesterday, to unveil pictures of the King and Queen, put up in the Armoury at San Francisco Barracks. The pictures were presented by Their Majesties. The Governor was present, and Lady Azevedo Continho helped him to perform the unveiling ceremony. There were athletic sports and a military exhibition of feats of arms afterwards.

The A.D.C. performance on Saturday was well worthy of praise.

KULANGSU (AMOY) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Municipal Council, held in the Board Room, on the 9th April 1907.

Present:—Messrs. F. B. Marrshall (Chairman), G. A. V. Bowra, W. Kruse, W. H. Wallace, Huang Ts'an-chow, and the Secretary.

1. The minutes of the last meeting are read, and confirmed.

2. The contract of Gee Sai for the erection of new goal, offices, police barracks etc., is approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. On the motion of Mr. Wallace, seconded by Mr Marshall, the Council decide unanimously to pay the Secretary a bonus of $250 for the work he has done in the preparation of plans etc., for the new building.

4. On the motion of Mr Bowra it is decided to write to Messrs. Kung Phoe Chun & Co., from whom the Council rent the present market buildings, and ask them on what terms they would be willing for the unexpired portion of the lease to be cancelled.

5. The Superintendent of Police reports the following cases have been heard in the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—

SUMMONSES.

Debt, 3: Breach of Municipal Regulations, 2; Assault, 4: Kidnapping, 1; Breach of contract, 1.

SUMMARY ARREST.

Committing a nuisance, 1; Theft, 2; Cruelty to animals.

W. H. WALLACE,
Chairman,

By order,
C. BERKELEY MITCHELL,
Secretary.

REVIEW.

Indiscreet Letters from Peking. Edited by B. L. PUTNAM WEALE. London: Hurst and Blackett, Limited.

Different people will read these letters with different emotions. Some will welcome them and some will condemn them. As a literary production there can be no question of their excellence; as a narrative, thrilling and absorbing, its interest and fascination will be admitted, but as to its wisdom—"aye, there's the rub." To speak lightly of diplomatic sanctities always raises an outcry, and doubtless this is what will happen in the present case. Admittedly the man who makes such exposures is not always animated by the highest motives. He may be actuated more by a desire for revenge for fancied slights and injuries. And not unnaturally the reader of these letters seeks to analyse the motives of the writer. The story of the siege is vividly and convincingly told and while individuals are criticised and systems are attacked the circumstances seem to offer justification. In other words the motives of the writer are no worse than those of other writers. He stands out a very human man. He was disgusted with the diplomatic arrogance which refused to see what was so apparent to other eyes, he was disgusted with the international jealousies which were so petty in view of the common danger, and he was disgusted with the alleged cowardice of officials who did not do all their position secured to call for, while others were fighting in their defence. Most of us would have felt the same had we been in the same place. Undoubtedly the publication of these letters is not to be regretted. Any contribution to the study of Chinese politics must be appreciated in the Far East, that is, if it possess any value, and the volume helps to remind us of a series of movements which we have been too ready to forget. It is not soothing to be shown the "eleven little miserable Legations, each with its own particular ideas and intrigues, but crouching all together under the Tartar Wall and trembling, awaiting with much assurance the bursting of the storm." "The stoical sceptical ill-informed British Legation is wringing its hands with annoyance." "All the plenipotentiaries are trying to save their positions and their careers by violent despatch writing at the eleventh hour. . . . Young O—told me that in their Legation they were actually ante-dating their despatches so as to be on the safe side! This shows how absolutely inexcusable has been the whole policy for three entire weeks." These little pen and ink sketches reveal the incapability of some of those entrusted with the maintenance of their country's prestige in Peking. This part of the narrative jars, not because it is in questionable taste, but because we fear it must be true. It reads like it.

The relation of the stirring events during the summer and autumn of 1900 is full of human interest. Our pulses are quickened by the roar of musketry, we tingle with the fierce excitement of the hand to hand encounter, and our passions are stirred with the horrible scenes enacted by the savage Boxers. We grumble with the crowd, but after all there is the satisfaction that comes from playing the man's part. And we feel that it was worth while to have lived through such an experience.

The diarist has succeeded in telling the story with more detail and with more dramatic effect than those who have described the events before him, and there can be no doubt that "Indiscreet Letters from Peking" are entitled to more than passing recognition. The author is indeed to be complimented, and though B. L. Putnam Weale's popularity as a man may suffer, his reputation as a writer of great ability cannot but be enhanced by such a thrilling narrative.

COMMERCIAL.

OPIUM

HONGKONG, May 2nd

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.

Malwa New	$860	to	—	per picul.
Malwa Old	$900	to	—	do.
Malwa Older	$930	to	—	do.
Malwa Very Old	$970	to	—	do.
Persian Fine Quality	$600	to	—	do.
Persian Extra Fine	$690	to	—	do.
Patna New	$925	to	—	per chest.
Patna Old	—	to	—	do.
Benares New	$900	to	—	do.
Benares Old	—	to	—	do.

RAW COTTON.

HONGKONG, 3rd May.—Small business put through. Stock about 2,000 bales.

Bombay	$17.50	to	$20.50	per pcl.
Bengal (New), Rangoon and Dacca	20.50	to	22.50	,,
Shanghai and Japanese	25.00	to	26.00	,,
Tungchow and Ningpo	25.00	to	26.00	,,

Reported sales, 200 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report, dated Hongkong, 4th May, states:—Although the Ching Min or Grave-worshipping Festival was in full swing during the interval another fortnight of a fair demand has been experienced in this market. Sales have been confined to best spinnings of favourite chops, while other tickets coming under the category of "good to best," but in less favour with the dealers, have been neglected. Low class threads are still unsaleable. Prices, however, have declined $1 to $2 per bale, and in view of a rising exchange importers are anxious sellers and sales are still vigorously pressed. Demand has run more or less on all counts, Nos. 10s and 20s, as usual, attracting by far the largest amount of attention and comprising more than three-fourths of the settlements. Sufficient rain has fallen in the interior and with the prospects of a normal rice crop and cheaper grain the outlook for the trade has somewhat brightened, more especially as money is getting easier amongst the natives and the heavy discount on silver remittances from the country has declined 3 to 4 points. Latest telegrams from Bombay and Shanghai make both markets strong, which has greatly encouraged holders who are now asking an advance on present prices, and at the close a temporary lull is for the moment being experienced. Sales of the interval aggregate 5,450 bales, arrivals amount to 1,232, unsold stock estimated at 68,000, and sold but uncleared yarn at 33,000 bales. Local Manufacture:—Continues quiet and no business has transpired. Japanese Yarn:—A sale of 200 bales No. 20s at $136 is the only business of the fortnight. Raw Cotton:—Two or three small lots of new superfine Bengals aggregating 115 bales have found buyers at $20 to $21. Old Bengals unsaleable. Nothing doing in China descriptions. Stocks estimated at 1,153 bales Indian and 600 bales Chinese. Quotations are Indian new $18 to $21 and old $15 to $18 and Chinese $21 to $24. Exchange on India has continued to advance and closes steady to-day at Rs. 158¼ for T/T and Rs. 158¾ for Post. On Shanghai 72⅜ and on Japan 104. The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 27th ultimo, viz:—Indian:—Market weak, prices showing a decline of 2 to 4 Taels all round. Total sales 7,500 bales with an estimated unsold and uncleared stock of 155,000 bales. Japanese:—Continues in demand and the market is steady. Sales 3,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 86 to 92½ for No. 16s and Tls. 93 to 99½ for No. 20s. Local:—The local mills have sold nearly 1,500 bales, and prices realized were Tls. 72 for No. 14s and Tls. 82 for No. 16s.

PIECE-GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai piece goods trade, dated Shanghai, 25th April, 1907, states:—The state of stagnation in which this market has been now for so long still continues, and anxiety is getting keener as the settling day, the fifth of the fifth moon, approaches. Clearances of Manchester makes keep up moderately well, but they consist entirely of goods that have been on storage for lengthy periods. In many cases contracts are being taken up under pressure, but the goods paid for are not going into consumption. Exchange is once more proving a thorn in the side, giving no one any peace or satisfaction. It hampers the export trade with its upward movement and so cripples the resources of the country. Fortunately the anticipated scarcity of money has not yet taken place and interest is easier again. There are absolutely no advices concerning the markets at our dependencies, but so far as it is possible to learn prospects as regards the crops are improving, weather conditions being favourable. Everything points to this being a very late season, which may possibly have something to do with the dull state of trade in all its branches. Telegrams from Manchester report a slightly more active market there and more general enquiry for China, Mexicans being specially mentioned, but we have been unable to trace the source on this side—in fact it would be difficult to find here any line of goods that could not be supplied out of stock very much under the prices at present current in Manchester. American Cotton is steadily rising, the spot quotation coming to-day 6.35d., but the price of "Futures" has not been wired for a week. Egyptian is easier at 10 1/16d. The greater attention that is being paid to the cultivation in India is already showing its effect. The crop this season is expected to be close on 5,000,000 bales of 400 lbs., the yield per acre having increased about 15 per cent. in addition to the greater acreage planted. From the States there is scarcely any telegraphic communication concerning the market, the position of which seems to puzzle those interested in it. From Textile Journals, however, we learn that manufacturers are quite alive to the situation in China and are quite content to work for the home trade, which is apparently insatiable. Buyers are willing to accept very late delivery and will take goods at almost any price as long as they are assured they will eventually get them. There is still very little evidence of business from first hands, but we do know that some further small parcels have been placed, consisting of various weights of Grey Shirtings and a few fine, pure finished White Shirtings. The bulk of the selling, however, continues to be at the auctions, the irregularity in prices showing there is not much consistency in the demand. A fair amount of buying is still going on in Yarns at drooping prices. Cotton is easier. Grey Shirtings.—The small private sales mentioned above have comprised all weights and at rather better prices than last week. At the auctions there are great discrepancies noticeable in the prices, but the heavier makes seem to be the firmest. White Shirtings.—Filled finished goods still hang fire and appear to be quite going out of fashion, meeting with no attention. With a few exceptions auction prices were steady to firm, and also for Irishes and T-Cloths and Jeans. The former show little change, but the latter went up about a mace at auction. Drills and Sheetings. There is little or nothing to report, there being no enquiry from first hands, and judging by the deliveries very little movement amongst second hand holders. Fancy goods. There was a slightly firmer tendency at the auctions for Turkey Reds, though privately they are very depressed owing to the heavy supply that has been dumped on this market. Deliveries are poor, and where buyers are being forced to pay for goods contracted for they are being mostly kept in stock. The market for both Prints and Dyed goods is depressed, and prices at auction for the Fast Black Italians this morning were all in and out. Woollens.—The auctions have shown some improvement in Camlets this week, especially for Scarlet, Dark Blue and Pink. Long-Ells and Spanish Stripes are a bit steadier, but Lastings are still weak. Cotton Yarn Indian.—The market does not show any strength, the supply being much greater than the demand, and holders of stock seem very anxious to realise, consequently prices are steadily sagging, showing a fall of at least a tael and a half since last week. The buying has been apparently entirely for Szechuen and the River Ports for all counts. Clearances keep fairly satisfactory. The sales amount in the aggregate to 3,025 bales. Local. Fresh business with the Mills is out of the question and the steadily drooping tendency in the retail market looks very ominous.

The following is the weekly Piece Goods Report of Messrs. Ilbert & Co., dated Shanghai, April 26th, 1907:—With the exception of a somewhat improved inquiry from Yangtse outlets the market has ruled exceedingly quiet throughout, and the volume of clearances has commenced its annual falling away that heralds the approach of the usual two slackest months of the year. Now that the spring demand is practically at an end, the position of our market as a whole can be gauged to some extent, and taking the figures of deliveries to date as compared with imports, and the present stocks as compared with those of last season, indications of the return to a healthy trading basis once more are by no means lacking especially when the lightness of the engagements of our market for goods to arrive is taken into consideration. In Dyed and Fancy Goods business has been of a satisfactory and growing nature, so this branch of the trade may be at the present time overlooked in favour of plain staple goods where the real congestion occurs. Taking every class together of these latter goods, the deliveries up to the present are 3,713,548 pieces as compared to 2,055,535 pieces imported, whilst the stock amounts to 10,699,554 pieces against the very excessive figures of 12,701,733 pieces of this time last year. In every class of importance a reduction on last year's stock is to be noted, though in the case of some the proportionate difference is not in so satisfactory a ratio as the totals. It may be trusted that the crops of this year for which the ground is now being prepared, are satisfactory instead of the failure they were last year, which would soon relieve the depression from which the market has suffered so long. The business of the week has been confined mostly to a fair number of resales and a few direct transactions in White Shirtings and English 10-lb. Shirting for the Yangtse trade, but a sale of American 3-yard Sheetings to a Korean outlet is worthy of note as being somewhat exceptional. Bombay Yarn is dull and stocks heavy. Local spinnings are weak.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 29th April.—The prices ruling are as follows:

COTTON YARN.—Market has ruled extremely dull, and a limited business was done at a decline of $1 to $3 per bale. Quotations are:—No. 10s at $69 to $72; No. 16s at $94 to $124; and No. 20s at $95 to $139. Arrivals 16,000 bales; Sales 2,500 bales, Shipments 12,500 bales; Bargains 50,000 bales. Unsold stock 56,000 bales.

Bombay	Nos. 10 to 20,	—	to	—
English	Nos. 16 to 24,	—	to	—
,,	22 to 24,	—	to	—
,,	28 to 32,	—	to	—
	38 to 42,	—	to	—

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Market strong but few sales.

		per piece
Grey Shirtings	7 lbs.	$2.52½ to $2.62½
	8.4 lbs.	3.12½ to 3.82½
	9 to 10 lbs.	4.12½ to 4.92½
White Shirtings	54 to 56 rd.	2.82½ to 3.02½
	58 to 60 ,,	3.12½ to 3.32½
	64 to 66 ,,	3.37½ to 5.42½
	Fine	5.62½ to 7.72½
	Book-folds	5.12½ to 7.87½
Victoria Lawns	12 yards	0.72½ to 1.62½
T-Cloths	6 lbs. 32 in. (Ord'y)	2.12½ to 2.32½
	7 lbs. 32 ,, ,,	2.37½ to 2.87½
	6 lbs. 32 ,, (Mexs).	2.32½ to 2.47½
	7 lbs. 32 ,, ,,	2.52½ to 3.17½
	8 to 8.4 oz., 36 in.	3.12½ to 3.82½
Drills, English	40 yds., 13½ to 14)	6.62½ to 7.37½

FANCY COTTONS.—Market strong but few sales.

		per piece
Turkey Red Shirtings	14 to 8 lbs.	$1.75 to $3.90

		per yard
Brocades	Dyed	$0.11 to $0.13
Chintzes	Assorted	0.08 to 0.18
Velvets	Black, 22 in.,	0.21 to 0.43
Velveteens	18 in.,	0.20 to 0.24

		per doz.
Handkerchiefs	Imitation Silk	$0.50 to $1.10

WOOLLENS.—Market strong but few sales.

		per yard
Spanish Stripes	Sundry chops	$0.70 to $2.00
German,		0.55 to 0.75
Habit, Medium & Broad Cloths,		1.25 to 3.00

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per s.s. *Delta*, sailed on 20th April, 1907. For Manchester:—351 bales waste silk. For London: 2 pkgs. feathers, 26 box tea, 1 box jewellery, 21 cases P. effects, 290 bales waste silk, 12 pkgs. chinaware and furniture, 25 slabs tin. For Lyons:—65 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—2 cases Manila hats, 52 bales raw silk, 6 cases feathers, 1 case embroidery.

Per I. G. M. s.s. *P. R. Leitpold*, sailed on 24th April. For Smyrna: 24 cases essential oil. For Naples:—3 cases cigars. For Genoa:—307 bales waste silk, 100 cases cassia, 48 bales raw silk, 20 cases essential oil, 4 cases hemp, 1 case cigars. For Antwerp—52 cases bristles, 30 rolls matting, 22 bales leaf tobacco. For Amsterdam:—113 rolls matting, 2 cases cigars. For Rotterdam:—40 matting. For Bremen:—797 rolls matting, 48 cases blackwoodware, 3 cases sundries. For Hamburg:—787 bales feathers, 82 cases bristles, 46 cases palm leaf fans, 20 cases chinaware, 15 cases human hair, 10 bales canes, 6 cases blackwoodware, 6 cases feathers. For Copenhagen:—5 bales feathers, 1 roll matting. For London:—100 rolls mats.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 4th May, 1907.—A fair business has been transacted during the week, but rates, with very few exceptions, have continued to rule with an inclination to weakness, and the market closes a quiet one at quotations. The weakness seems to be caused more by financial and market than by any other reasons. Many of our chief stocks have apparently touched a price at which a profitable return to investors may reasonably be expected in the natural course of things and in the return swing of the pendulum, the latter occurrence being generally looked upon as inevitable in the not far distant future.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais have ruled rather weaker with small sales at 915, while the London rate has fallen to £10⅞. Nationals have been placed in further small lots at 51, the market closing with buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continuing on offer during the week, have continued to rule weak, and close with sellers at quotation and no sales to report. Yangtszes are still enquired for at quotation, but shares are difficult to get and we have heard of no sales. The latter Company has declared a dividend of Tls. 12, and North Chinas one of $2½. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have receded to 330 after a small sale at 331. Chinas continue neglected with sellers at 85, and no business to report.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macaos, after being in demand the whole of the week at 29¾, without bringing any shares on the market, close with sales and probable buyers at 30. Indo-Chinas have found buyers during the week at 71. Douglases have been placed at 38, closing with further buyers at that rate. China and Manilas have declined to 16 without sales. Shell Transports have been done at 4/5 locally, and at slightly higher rates for London a/c, the market closing with buyers at 4/5, and probably higher rates would be paid on an unconfirmed London quotation of 4/7. Star Ferries have sellers at quotations and close without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars continue in a small demand at 118, but holders still seem disinclined to part, and we have no business to report.

MINING.—Chinese Engineering have been in request, but shares are very scarce and we have heard of no sales. Raubs have ruled weaker and close at 87, with sellers and no sales to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have further receded, and after a few more sales in the early part of the week at 118, were placed at 117 and 116, the market closing with sellers at 115. Kowloon Wharves have found buyers at 85, but close with sellers at that rate. Shanghai Docks have ruled very quiet and close with sellers at 84 cash, and at equivalent rates forward.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continued in demand in the early part of the week, and with no shares forthcoming the rate rose to 108 at which a fair number of shares changed hands. Later, however, with some settlement shares on the market, the rate weakened a little and shares were placed at 107½ and 107; the market closes at 107½ with probable sellers. Kowloon Lands have been placed at 37¼ and 37½, closing with sellers at the latter rate. Humphreys have found further small buyers at 11, closing with sellers at that rate. Shanghai Lands have improved to 103. West Points remain neglected.

COTTON MILLS.—The latest quotation from Shanghai for Ewos (by wire) is 62 buyers, a slight improvement on last week's closing quotation. The other quotations for Northern Mills are the latest by letter, no telegraphic quotations being to hand. Hongkongs close without business and with sellers at 11⅛.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents, Electrics and Laundries have changed hands during the week at quotations and close steady. Peak Tramways have improved to 12 with small sales and buyers, and Watkins to 4¼. Watsons have declined to 12, but close with buyers at that rate. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

Quotations are as follows.—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	$200	$120
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai..	$125	$915, sales & sel. London, £104
National B. of China		
A. Shares	£6	$51, sales
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	$7, sellers
China-Borneo Co.	$12	$9¼, sellers
China Light & P. Co	$10	$7, sellers
China Provident	$10	$9, sales & sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls 6', buyers
Hongkong	$10	$11¼, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 52
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 75
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 370
Dairy Farm	$6	$15½, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	$50	$85, sales & sellers
H. & W. Dock	$50	$115, sellers
New Amoy Dock	$6¾	$11¼
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ld	Tls. 100	Tls 84, sellers
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 217
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	$25	$18, sellers
G. Island Cement	$10	$19, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	$10	$16, sales & sel.
Hongkong Hotel Co.	$50	$118, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.	$25	$240
Hongkong Rope Co.	$10	$20, buyers
Insurances—		
Canton	$50	$282½, sellers
China Fire	$20	$85, sellers
China Traders	$25	$97
Hongkong Fire	$50	$330, sellers
North China	£5	Tls. 77½, x.d.
Union	$100	$770, sellers
Yangtsze	$60	$158, x.d. buyers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	$100	$107½
Humphrey's Estate	$10	$11, sales & sel.
Kowloon Land & B.	$30	$37½, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50 / Tls. 50	Tls. 103 / Tls. 101
West Point Building	$50	$49, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	$450, buyers
Raubs	18 10	$7, sellers
Peak Tramways	$10	$12, sales & sel.
Philippine Co.	$10	$5
Refineries—		
China Sugar	$100	$118, buyers
Luzon Sugar	$100	$21, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	$25	$16, sellers
Douglas Steamship	$50	$38, sales & buy.
H., Canton & M.	$15	$30, sales
Indo-China S.N. Co.	£10	$71, sales
Shell Transport Co	£1	4/5- buyers
Star Ferry	$10	$30, sellers
Do. New	$5	$19¼, sellers
South China M. Post.	$25	$25
Steam Laundry Co.	$5	$7, sales
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	$10	$20, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	$10	$8, sellers
Watkins	$10	$4¼, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	$10	$12, sales & buy.
United Asbestos	$4	$10, buyers
Do. Founders	$10	$150
Union Waterboat Co.	$10	$11, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending April 25, 1907, states:—A very limited business has been done during the week and the tightness of the money market mentioned in our last still continues. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares. An improvement has taken place in this stock, shares having changed hands as high as $900 exchange 73. The London price has also improved to £104. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 2/10⅛. Marine and Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Yangtsze Insurance Shares are wanted at $165 ex. 75, and Unions are quoted in Hongkong at $785 ex dividend. Shipping.—No business reported. Indo-China S. N. Co. No business has been reported officially, but shares have changed hands at Tls. 51½ cash. Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co. There are sellers of Ordinary shares at Tls. 50, and Preference shares could be placed at the same rate. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai & Hongkew Wharves. A moderate business has been done in this Stock at declining rates. Business was reported officially at Tls. 214½ cash: Tls. 217½, 216 and 215 April. Tls. 217½, Tls. 222½ and Tls. 222 June. Yangtsze Wharf & Godown Co. A small cash business was done at Tls. 222½ and Tls. 215. Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ld. No business was reported. There is a small cash demand at Tls. 85, but no business doing forward. Sugars.—No business reported. There are sellers of Peraks at Tls. 85. Mining—Chinese Engineering & Mining Co. There is a fair demand for these shares at increased rates, the market closing with buyers at Tls. 13.60. Lands.—Business is reported at Tls. 102 for the old shares and Tls. 100 for the new, but towards the close new shares changed hands at Tls. 9. Industrial.—A fair business was done in Ewos forward. Business has been reported at Tls. 62, Tls. 61½ and Tls. 62½ for June, the market closing steady at the latter rate. A small lot of Internationals changed hands at Tls. 58 for June. Laou Kung Mows are quoted at Tls. 80 for June and there are sellers at this rate. Shanghai Gas Co. Shares are quoted at Tls. 109, and a small business has been done at this rate. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats. Business is reported for cash at Tls 277½, and Tls. 280. The market closing with sellers for cash at Tls. 277½ and buyers for June at Tls. 280. Miscellaneous:—A small rise took place in Hall & Holts Shares to $24, at which a fair business has been done, the market closing with buyers. Moutries. A sale of Moutrie's shares took place at 52½. Shanghai Horse Bazaar. A fair number of Horse Bazaars changed hands at Tls. 44 and Tls. 45. Shanghai Telephone Co. Shares are wanted at Tls. 62. Loans and Debentures. Chinese Imperial Government 7 per cent. loans, have been dealt in at Tls. 250.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, May 3rd.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/1⅛
Bank Bills, on demand	2/1⅛
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/1⅛
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	2/1⅛
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2⅛
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	268
Credits 4 months' sight	272½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	218
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	51⅛
Credits, 60 days' sight	52⅛
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	158½
Bank, on demand	158½
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	158½
Bank on demand	158½
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	72⅛
Private, 30 days' sight	73⅛
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	104
ON MANILA.—On demand	104
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	10 p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	127½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	4½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON—On demand	4½ p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	68½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	$ 9.35
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	$48.80
BAR SILVER, per oz	30⅛

FREIGHT.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles, or Havre; 40/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) General Cargo 30/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez):—Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (overland):—per carload, Tea G. $1¼ cents per lb. gross; Less than carload, Tea G. $1½ cents per lb. gross, plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.50 to 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

April— ARRIVALS.

28, Amoy, German str., from Tourane.
28, Providence, Nor. str., from Haiphong.
29, Belgravia, German str., from Amoy.
29, Cameta, British str., from Foochow.
29, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
29, Kowloon, German str., from Mororan.
29, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
29, Samsen, German str, from Bangkok.
29, Sanuki Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
29, Tourane, French str., from Marseilles.
29, Triumph, German str., from Haiphong.
29, Ville de la Ciotat, Fr. str., from S'hai.
29, Wuhu, British str, from Saigon.
29, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
30, Arratoon Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
30, Coptic, British str., from San Francisco.
30, Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
30, Fausang, British str., from Swatow.
30, Flintshire, British str., from London
30 Haiching, British str, from Coast Ports.
30, Hohenstaufen, Ger, str., from Hamburg.
30, Kioyei Maru, Jap. str, from Saigon.
30, Kweiyang, British str., from Newchwang.
30, Phu-Yen, French str., from Saigon.
30, Yangmoo, Corean str, from Kutchinotzu.

May—

1, Athenian, British str., from Vancouver.
1, Derwent, British str., from Saigon.
1, Glenavon, British str., from Singapore.
1, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., from London.
1, Kiukiang, British str., from Shanghai.
1, Minnesota, American str., from Seattle.
1, Prometheus, British str., from Singapore.
1, Tinhow, British str., from Saigon.
2, Arcadia, British str., from Shanghai.
2, Benlidi, British str., from London.
2, Devanha, British str., from Bombay.
2, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
2, Joshin Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
2, Loyal, German str., from Bangkok.
2, Prinz Waldemar, Ger. str., from Sydney.
2, Rhenania, German str., from Shanghai.

April— DEPARTURES.

29, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
29, Germania, German str., for Saigon.
29, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
29, Nore, British str., for Shanghai.
29, Sullberg, German str., for Haiphong.
29, Titan, British str., for Liverpool.
30, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
30, Choising, German str., for Hoihow.
30, Hilary, German str., for Sourabaya.
30, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
30, Kaga Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.
30, Keemun, British str., for Shanghai.
30, Laisang, British str., for Singapore.
30, Landrat Scheiff, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
30, Numantia, German str., for Moji.
30, Shansi, British str., for Swatow.
30, Tean, British str., for Manila.
30, Tourane, French str., for Shanghai.
30, Ville de la Ciotat, Fr. str., for Europe.

May—

1, Batoum, British str., for Palambang.
1, Belgravia German str., for Singapore.
1, Childar, Norwegian str, for Swatow.
1, Fukushu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
1, Glenaffric, British str., for Calcutta.
1, Hohenstaufen, German str., for Shanghai.
1, Paklat, German str., for Swatow.
1, Patchaburi, German str., for Swatow.
1, Sanuki Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
1, Shantung, British str., for Samarang.
1, Taiwan, British str, for Saigon.
2, Devanha, British str., for Shanghai.
2, Flintshire, British str., for Shanghai.
2, Kent, British cruiser, for Shanghai.
2, Koun Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
2, Powhatan, British str., for Moji.
2, Tinhow, British str. for Shanghai.
2, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
2, Yingchow, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Walsh, Mr. and Mrs. Lond, Capt. and Mrs. F. Westdahl, Sister Autoniette and Mother Candide, Miss M. Hopirm, Miss Lond, Messrs. W. C. Robbens, Eiotchyan, A. R. Frith, G. S. Allen, J. L. Davis, Augustin and T. H. Stewart.

Per *Chipshing*, from Tientsin, Mr. and Mrs. Fox and 3 children, Mrs. Lemeatle and 1 child.

Per *Prinz Waldemar*, from Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Burvill, Mr. and Mrs. Drumgold, Mr. and Mrs. Welleg, Messrs. Weyhausen, Harrington, Count Rantzau, Kettler, Jucatz and Dahne.

Per *Coptic*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. G. F. West, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. MaDaniel, Mrs. W. E. Parker, Mrs. F. L. Frankin, Miss M. P. Kiesel, Miss M. Parks, Miss M. Allwein, Miss C. B. White, Master T. C. Parker, Messrs. W. T. Beardsley, V. C. Saywell, C. M. Rittinghausen, Mc Brath, H. Lind and W. C. Jones.

Per *Doric*, for Hongkong, from San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Danny, Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Newell and son, Mr. and Mrs B H. Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Gilbert, Mr. and Miss J. F. C. da Rosa, Mr. and Mrs. E. Warlomont and child, Rev. and Mrs. R. C. Jones and child, Capt. and Mrs. G. L. French and child, Miss A. L. Brooms, Miss S. Fry, Miss B. Macdonald, Miss A. Destrick, Miss Caroline Danny, Mr. Arthur Silverstone, Mr. A. S. Macdonald, Mr J. J Rubin, Mr. W. Bessem, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mr F H. Stratton, Mr. Wellington Gilbert, Mr. T. T Gance, Mr. E. Allen, U.S.N., Mr. A. R. Hager, Mr. M. F. Silverstone, Mr. J. Bacon, Mr. A. L. Morgenstern, Mr. H. C. Hanna, Mr. Mariano Cuyugan, Mr. J. Clark, Mr. Thomas Sweeney, Capt. F. M. White.

Per *Arcadia*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Bishop, Mr. and Mrs. Keswick 2 children and infant, Rev. W. A. Sharp, Rev. G. Rensch, Messrs. F. G. Drewitt, Michelson, Slade and C. R. Shaw; for London, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs Best, child and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Moss, Messrs. E. R. Palmer, C. J. G. Hill, Graham, M. Ansell, F. Ellis, Harms, Oliver, Cardean, Lapper and Baxter; from Yokohama, Mr. G. A. Storold, Misses Harrison; for Marseilles, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Wedemefer and child, Mr. Li Yendus; from Yokohama, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Layard and infant, Messrs. A. Forbes, W. Ainslie and Mrs. Layards & nurse; for Bombay, from Shanghai, Mrs. Nicojees and amah.

Per *Devanha*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Halifax, Messrs. F. S. Jones, P. K. Miller, Carmichael, A. M. Thornhill, and C. Maishall; from Hamburg, Dr. J. M. Vidal, Messrs. Kumamoto, Rose, and M. Sethna; from Colombo, Mrs. Knox Adulor, Mr. G. L. Lyon; from Singapore, Mrs. A. Freemont, Mr. T. H. Muller and Mr. J. Thum; from Brindisi, Mrs. M. Penoyt; from Marseilles, Mr. M Goodman, and Mr. Wetherell; Aden, Mr. D. Hanll and infant; for Shanghai, from London, Miss E. Chatworthy. Mr. H. E. Middleton; from Hamburg, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Rusden, Mr. and Mrs. Laloaca, Mr. P. Naroji; from Singapore, Mr. J. H. Joseph; from Marseilles, Mr. D. Flemming; for Yokohama, from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Sume Thomson; from Marseilles, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Clark, Mrs. and Miss Gossman, Messrs. E. J. S. Tanner, Macleman, J. E. Po De Conroy, J. McArthur, G. M. Wood, and Col. J. F. Kempster; for Manila, from London, Mr. F. S. Jones.

Per *Tourane*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Russell, Messrs. Lemoine, Esteban Puigdenyolas and L. Puigdenyolas: from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Lister, Messrs. A. V. Apcar, F. Vetch and Hamilton Vetch; from Batavia, Mr. and Mrs. C. Barbour, Miss Dunnetts; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. S.W. Wolfe, Messrs. J. J. Franklin, Larocke, Henrtley, P. F. Chilvers, A. S. Kemplationne, J. Gill, Armitage, J. Byrnes and O. Williams; from Saigon, Mrs. Hguyen Thi Nam, Miss Tabouriset, Messrs. Pirovano, E. W. Mayne, Giroldi and Bez; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Capt. Bremer, Messrs. de Broc and Pariset; from Port Said, Elephterion; from Aden, Frere Jules Sermondadaz; from Colombo, Mr. Gandel; from Singapore, Mrs. and Miss de Souza, Mrs. Okani, Miss Hartmann, Miss A. Sternberg, Capt. J. J. Hudue; from Saigon, Mrs. Binder; for Kobe, from Singapore, Mr and Mrs. Okamoto, Mrs. S. Hosamatcho, Mrs. Makino, Mr. T. Yanagawa; for Yokohama from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs Israil Dupont, Mrs. Rose Maille and children, Messrs. F. D. Haigh, Myaoka, Santos Silva, Jourdan, M. N. Marti and Comte de Segonzac; from Singapore, Mr. Wm. Eng Rent; from Saigon, Mr. L. Morisot.

Per *Arratoon Apcar*, from Calcutta, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. H. Staples, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Cook, Lieut. D. W. Powell, Messrs. E. H. Staples, Rosenthal, H. H. Watkins, Private Morris.

Per *Athenian*, from Vancouver, Mr. & Mrs. S. E. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Henry, Miss A C. Dupuis, Miss M. Gall, Messrs. John Gall, Asshton Smith, Chas. Chambers, Ben Calvert, H. Luscombe, Gavin Wood, Percival MacKenzie, and D. W. Norton.

Per *Hohenstaufen*, from Hamburg and Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Hon.-Consul Pereira, Mr. and Mrs. de Menezes, Mrs. d'Aranjo and daughters, Messrs. Fove Machado, Silva Azevedo, Bento de Fesus, de Castro Neves, da Rocha Abreio, Hach, Bela von Berseviezy, Julius von Tuhos, de Mazedo, Frederico Carlos, Fvao Baptista, Alberts Raul, Julio Fernandes and Guillaume Berns.

Per *Ville de Ciotat*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs. Ch. Bryan and E.G. Doyle; from Shanghai, Miss Belstead, Miss Sain, Professeur Marbini, Messrs. F. G. Fenton, Saghaboda and boy, du Dognon, A. M. Silva, Marochi and John Gewitz; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs Fisher, Mrs. Weinberg, Glele and Polnsing; for Singapore, from Kobe, Messrs. M. K. Nishido and K. Katajuna; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. da Costa, Mrs. Weshneider, Dr. J. W. Ross, Messrs. Bassara, Bender and Greenberg; for Colombo, from Yokohama, Mr. M. Allisber; from Kobe, Messrs. Hralinn and Rasud; from Shanghai, Mrs. Blumenthal and infant, Mr. Margoulios; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Guyan, Mr. and Mrs. Platt Mrs. Cousin, Messrs. C. Hiranuma, K. Suzuki Cong. Arond, F. Carpinelli, A. Cousin, J. Cameron; from Kobe, Mr. F. de Kerberg; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Cillot, Mrs. Bridou, Mrs. Knipping and child, Mrs. Elodie Blane, Miss Berigny, Capt. Harris, Messrs. H. Dopfeld, Maquet, R. P. Dusquesne, Lafont, G. Sax, S. Dick, Thomson, M. Reynau, Se Boulch, Rolsel, Chillar, Casali, Urvay, Berbhe, Caradec, Garbay, Bonacorci, Scofoni, Boileau, Damore, Peraldi, Granaba Graziani, Lebras and Quernic.

DEPARTED.

Per *Zafiro*, from Hongkong, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs M. H. Cone, two Misses Cone, Mrs. Matsumi and child, Capt and Mrs. J. K. Thomson, Capt. and Mrs. D. M. King, Messrs. L. Brant, J. Hohuta, B. G. Lee and N. E. Lee.

Per *Villa de la Ciotat*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Mrs. Cemias, Mrs. Durieur, Sisters Candide and Autoinette, Rev. Joubert, Messrs. Th. Costarel and N. Costrel; for Singapore, Mrs. J. Sothern; for Marseilles, Messrs. Clare, Hobit, E. Rices, Delawers, H. Pulcan and V. Meyer.

Per *Tourane*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. Gertrudes Marques, Miss Cureroon Lubeck, Miss Silva, Miss Marigaihtua, Miss Thomas, Rev. Pere Sedat, Dr. R. R. Martie, Messrs. H. Friedrich, H. Waligoraki, I. I. Ruber, R. H. Newborn, Panciera, W. F. Brewer, Marks and Albert Kopp; for Kobe, Mr. D. W. Powell.

Per *Sanuki Maru*, from Hongkong, for London and ports, Mr. and Mrs. Bandinell, Mr. and Mrs. K. Aoyagi, Mr. and Mrs. S. Furuya, Mrs. W. A. Dowley, Mrs. Eves, Mrs. Laidrich and 3 children, Mrs. R. Otri and 2 children, Miss Bandinelle, Miss Farquharson, Miss K. Holzer, Professor K. Honda, Dr. G. Yamamoto, Messrs. Wm. Hick, Harry Eyre, K. Ogada, K. Tonda, S. Yasui, K. Kimishima, K. Nodzahi, K. Kunitake and K. Oda.

Per *Kaga Maru*, from Hongkong, for Japan, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Dunn, Mr. and Mrs. Talbot, Major and Mrs. Batch, Major and Mrs. Chitty, infant and amah, Capt. and Mrs. Price, infant and amah, Capt. and Mrs. Wait, Capt. and Mrs. Lyon, Surgeon and Mrs. Bains, Mrs. Kent, Mrs. Wakefield, Miss A. M. Thompson, Miss Camillo M. Grill, Miss Quarin, W. Leitad, Miss Morse, Miss Hooke, Lieut. Wakefield, Lieut. Stainton Lieut. Taylor, Rev. K. M. Stockings, Col Reid, Count Soh, Messrs. Altenroxai, C. A. Carr, T. C. Lowe, P. J. Mc Donald, Iwasaki, Stohr, Braht, J. ter Mors J. A. Friars, H. L. Verna, D. S. Verna, Y. Kiyoni N. Watano, T. Kiyoura and H. Inuenka.

Printed and published by HENRIAN AUGUSTUS HAM, for the Consortium, at 10A, Des Voeux Road Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong. London Office 131, Fleet Street, E.C.